

B R I D E S S TORY

2

Kaoru Mori



BER- E- S- STORY

2

Kaoru
Mori





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◆
CHAPTER SIX
THE BREAD
OVEN
◆



I'M
OFF!

ALL
RIGHT.

SAY
HELLO
FOR
US.

HUH?

WHERE'S
AMIR
GOING?

SO LIKE
YOU!

THE MOMENT
YOU REALIZE
YOU CAN'T GO,
YOU FORGET IT
COMPLETELY.

EH!?

—AH!

AHH!!



SFX: GAYA (GLAMOR), WAI (CHATTER) WAI









YOU
USE THIS
STAMP AND
PRESS IT
WHEREVER
YOU
WANT...

...LIKE
THIS...



HOW DO
YOU DO
THAT?

IT'S BEAUTI-
FUL.

HUH?

HOW...?



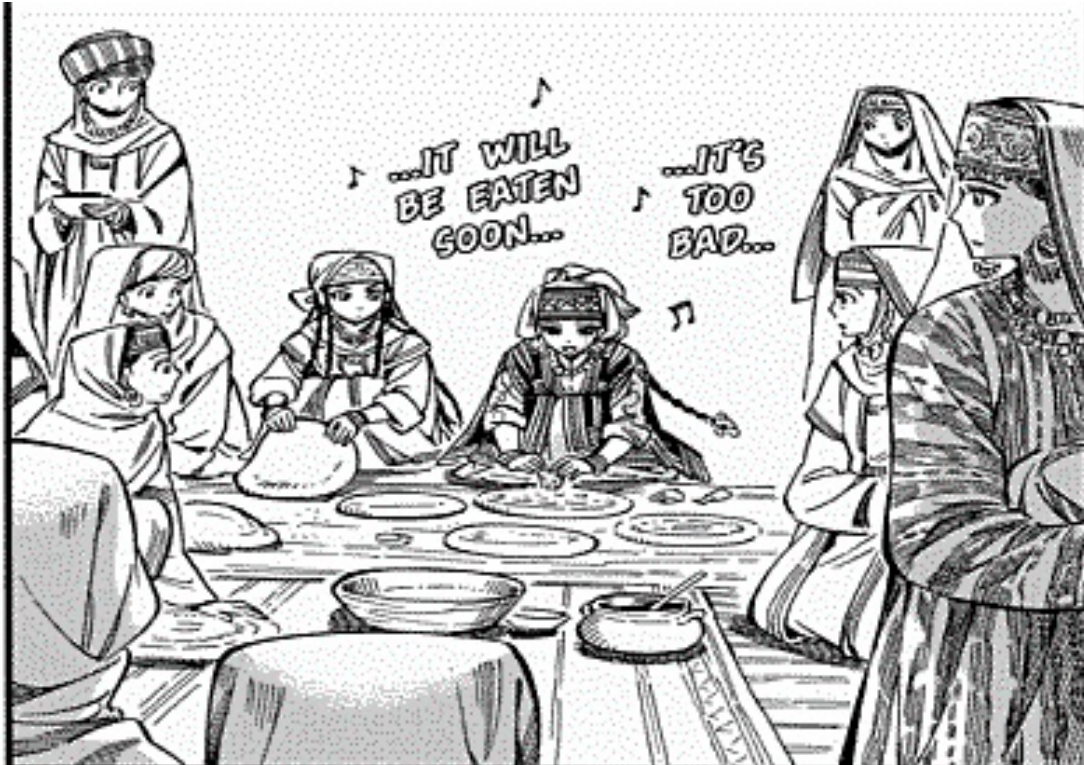
THIS
IS...



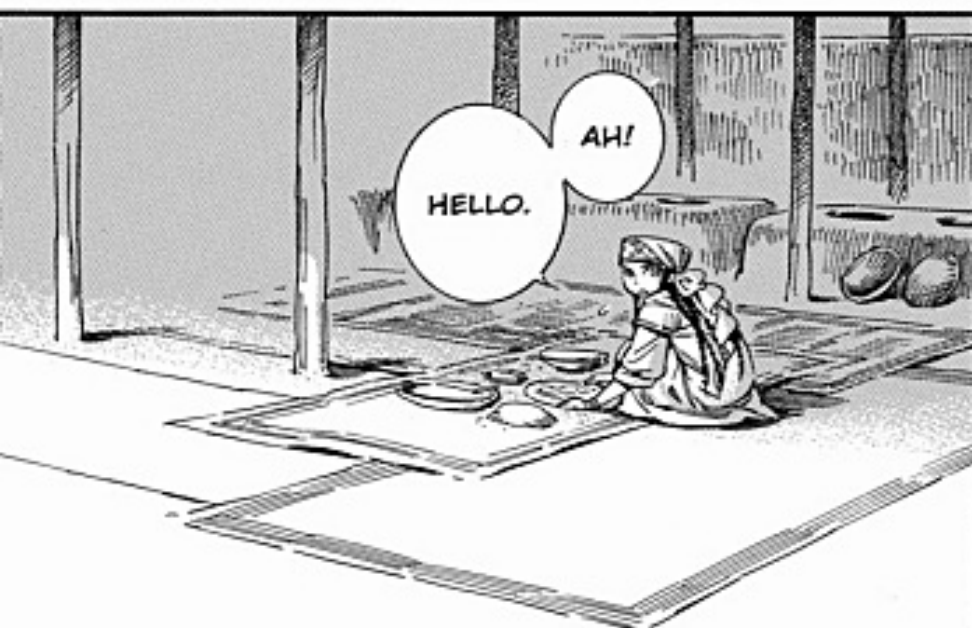
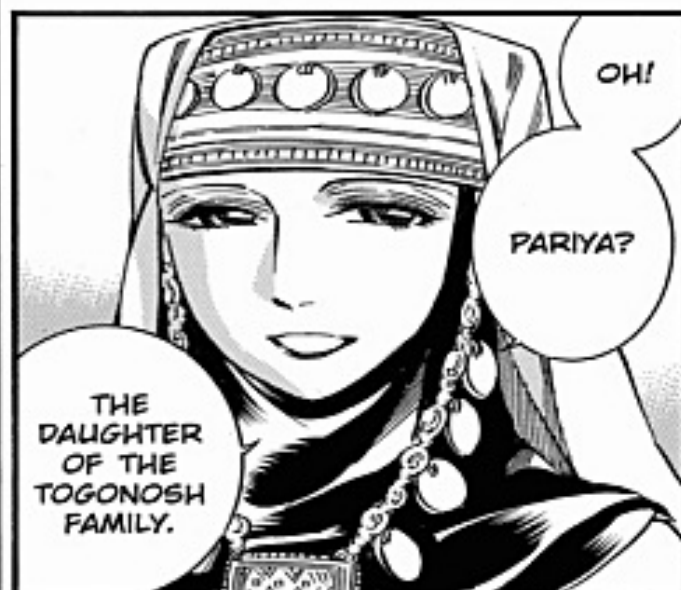
...GO
VERY
BEAUTI-
FUL,
AND
GO...

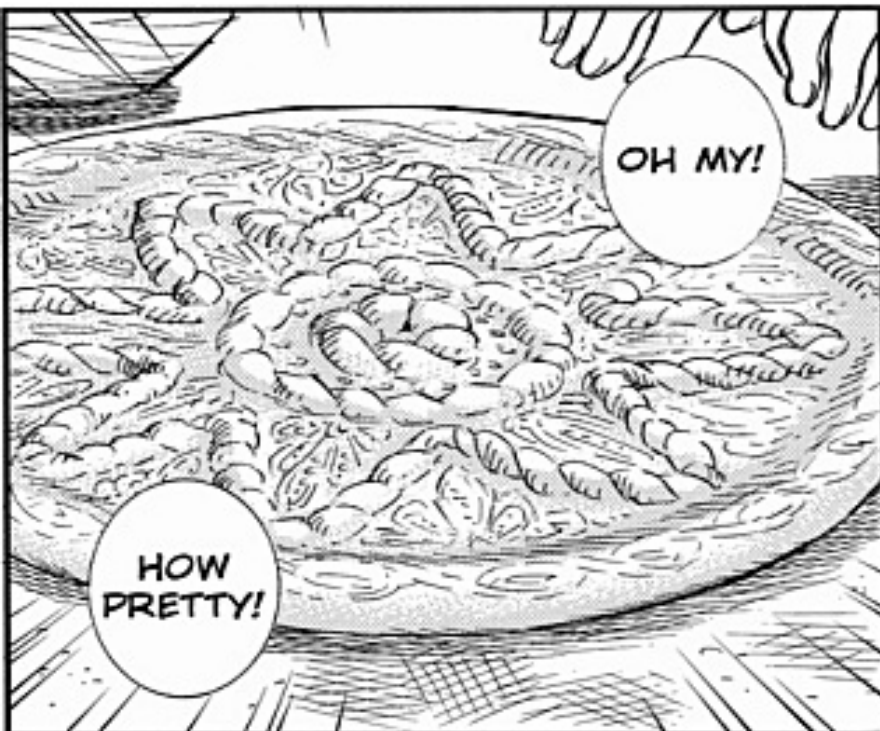


PETTA
(STAMP)









OH MY!

HOW
PRETTY!



EH?

YES.

THE
OTHERS
WERE
HERE, BUT
THEY'VE
GONE
HOME.

IS IT JUST
YOU, MISS
PARIYA?



!



...
THANK
YOU.

IT'S SO
BEAUTI-
FUL!

JUST
AMAZING!



YES?



A-

AMIR,
WAIT!



IT'S SO
HOT.





IS THAT
SO?

YES.



I'M...

...CON-
STANTLY
TOLD I
AM "TOO
CHEEKY."



...I THINK
THAT
BEING
CHEEKY...

OF
COURSE,
I...

IT'S
JUST THAT
EVERYBODY
SAYS IT!

...IS
WRONG
TOO!



AND
ARE YOU
CHEEKY?

EH!?

NO!



AND IF
YOU'RE
TRYING, THEN
THINGS WILL
BE FINE.

I DON'T
THINK
YOU'RE
CHEEKY.



I HOPE
THAT'S
TRUE.

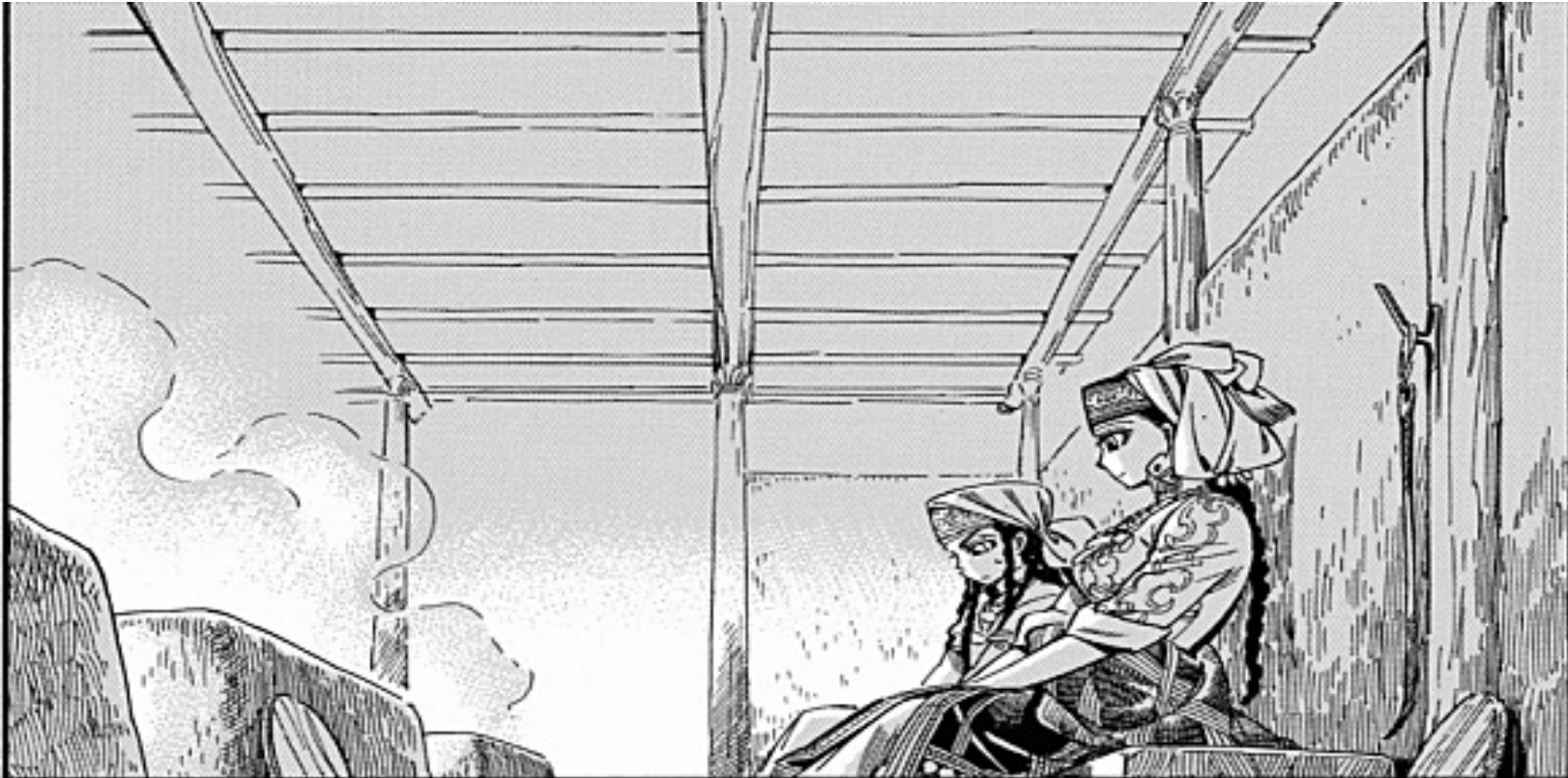
.....YES.

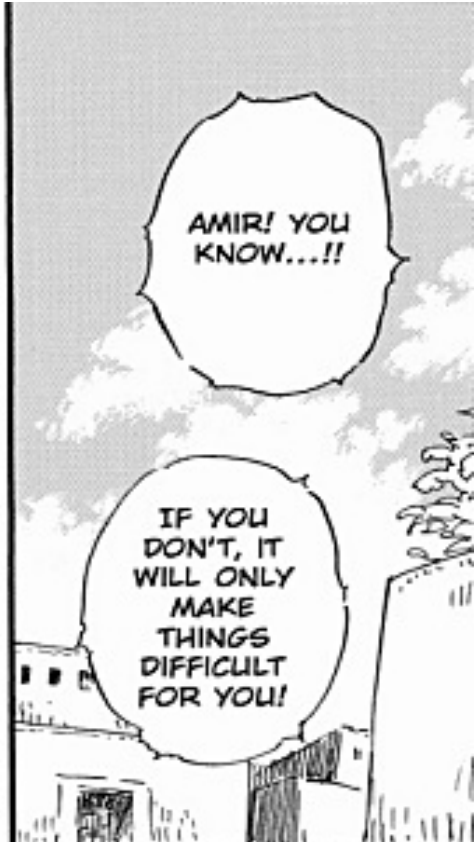
YES,
THAT'S
TRUE.



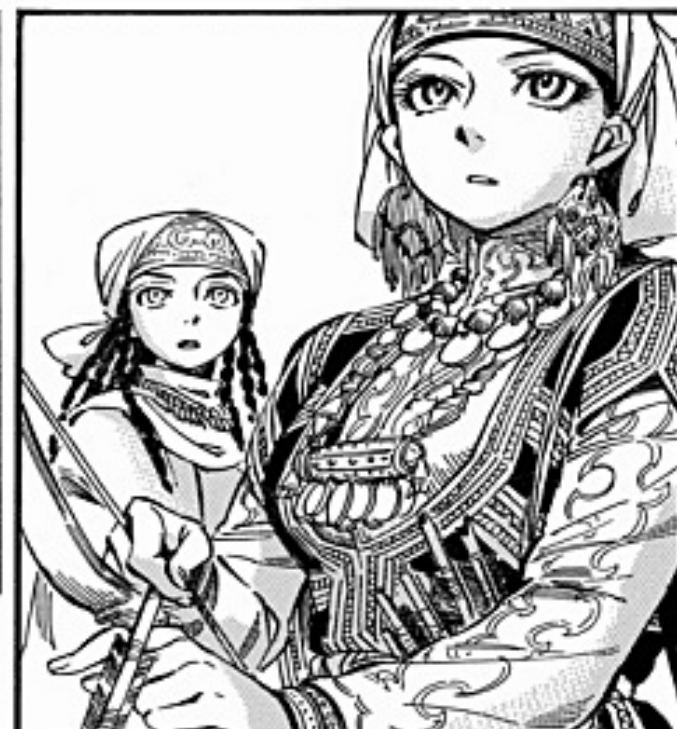
SO I'M
ALWAYS
TRYING
TO...

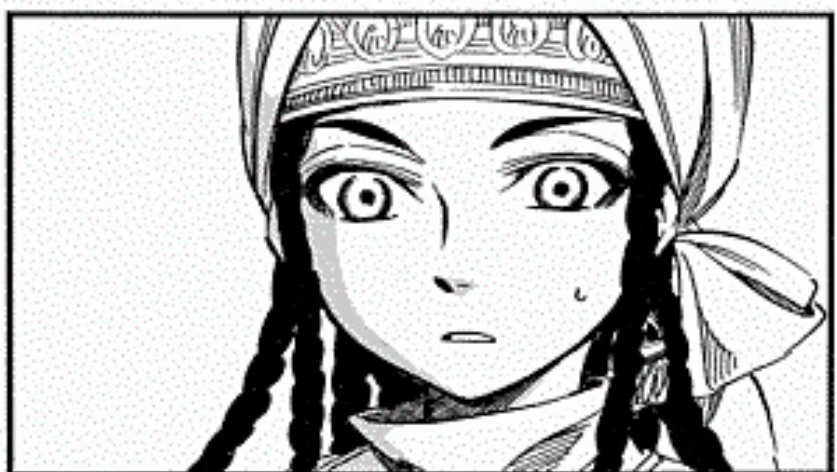
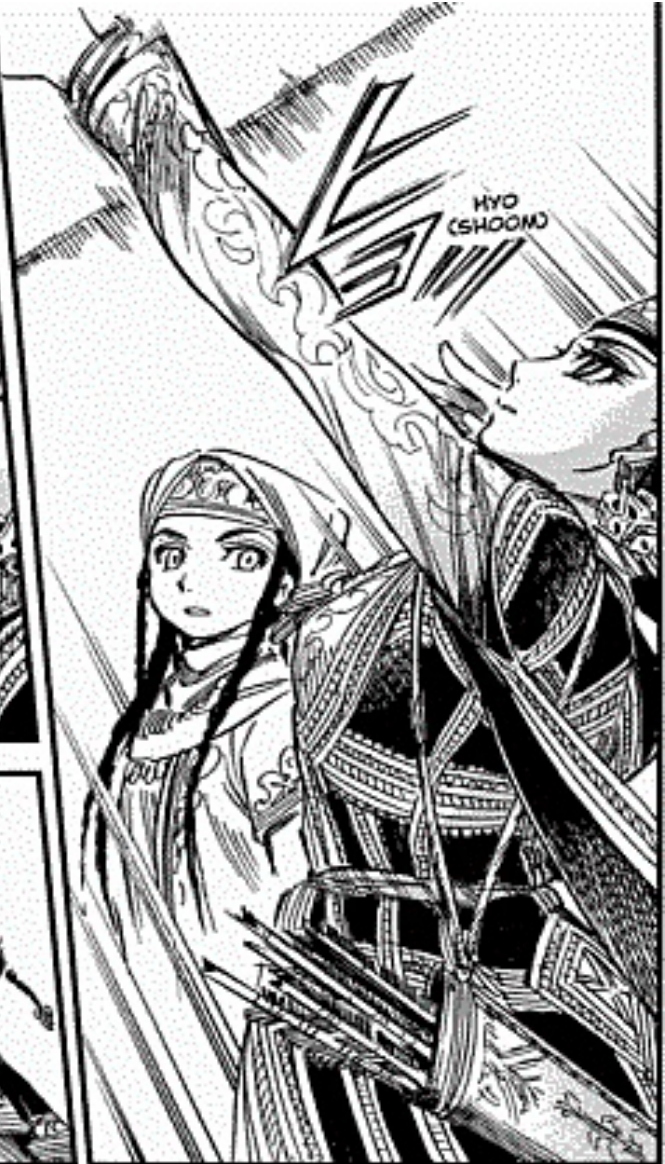
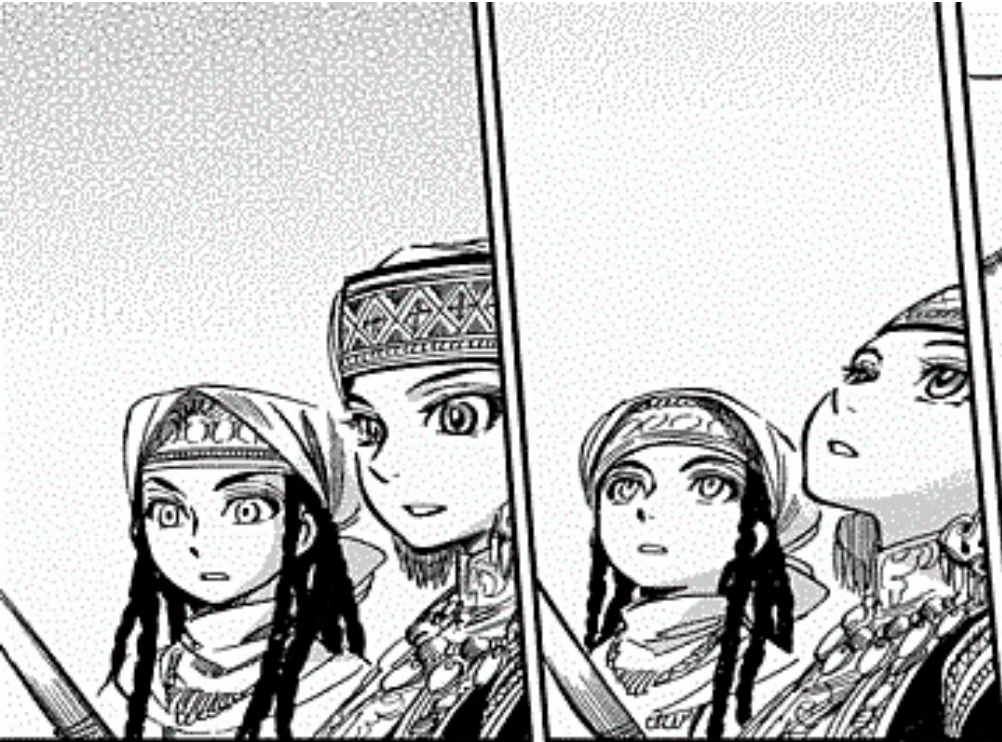
...KEEP
MYSELF IN
CHECK...





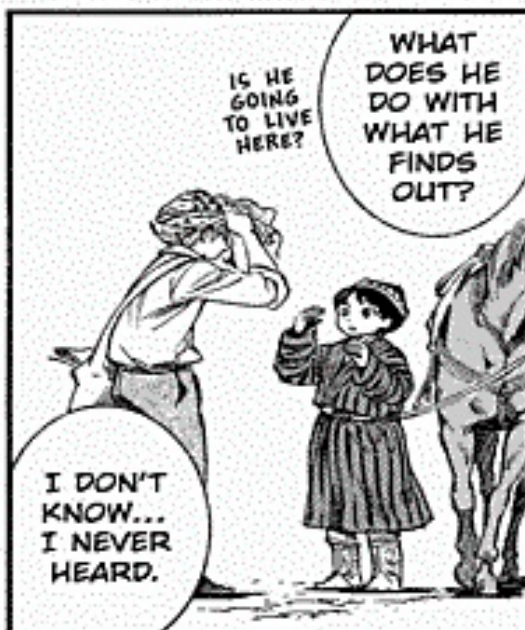




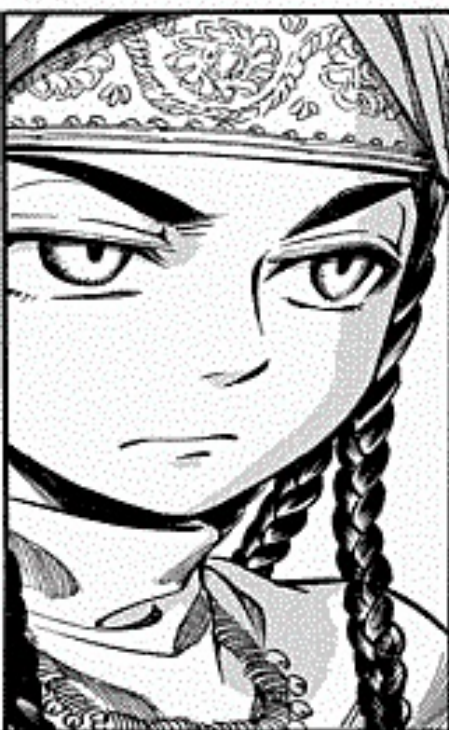












HMMM?

IT'S
SMALLER
THAN I
EXPECTED.



HUH?

SO WHAT
IS ITS
BENEFIT?



ITS
DIVINE
POWER?

ITS
MIRACLE?



IT MAY
BE SMALL,
BUT IT'S
FAMOUS!

OHH?

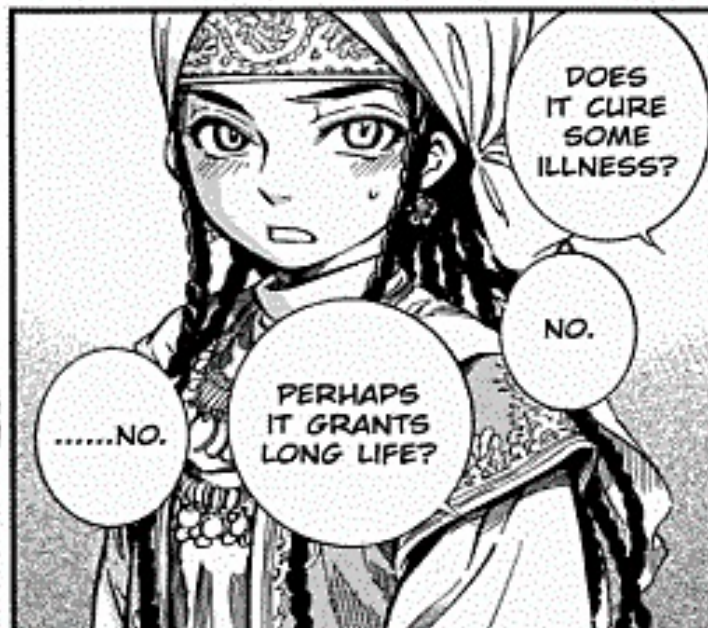
IS THAT
RIGHT?

PEOPLE
COME FROM
FAR AWAY
JUST TO
VISIT IT!



IT'S...

...NOTHING
LIKE THAT...

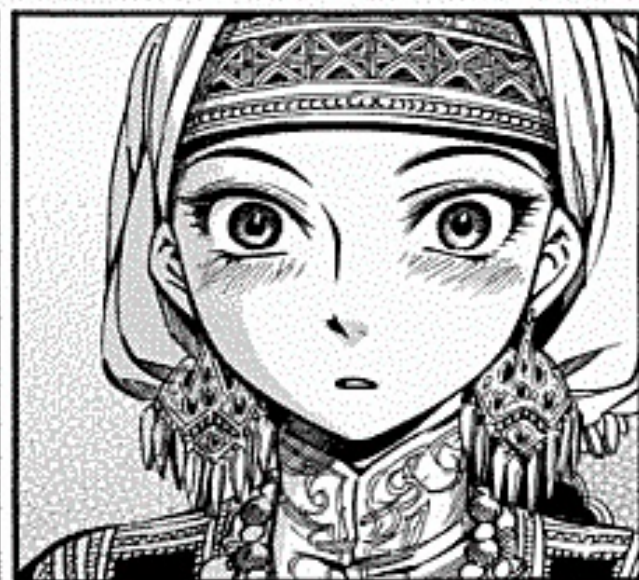
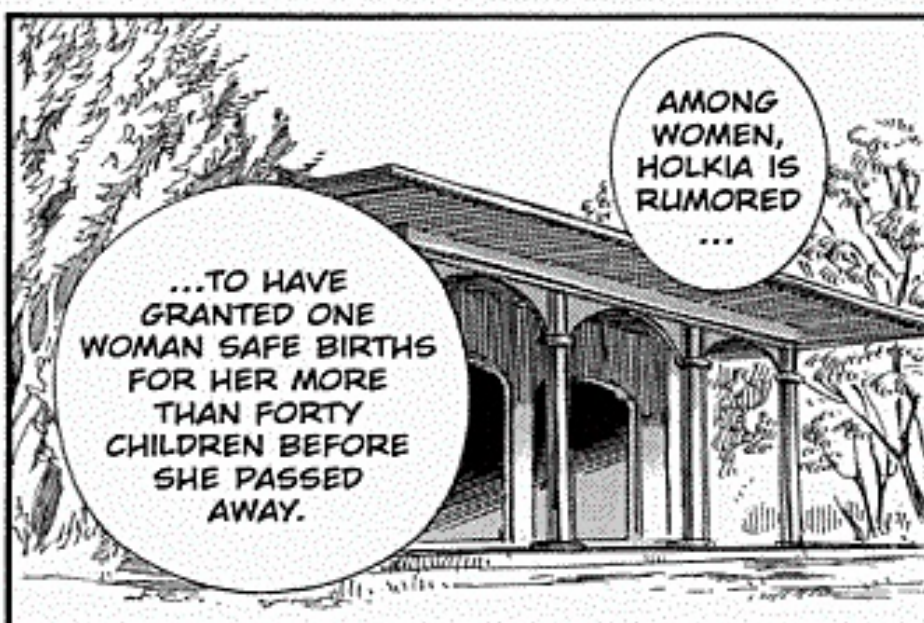


DOES
IT CURE
SOME
ILLNESS?

NO.

PERHAPS
IT GRANTS
LONG LIFE?

.....NO.

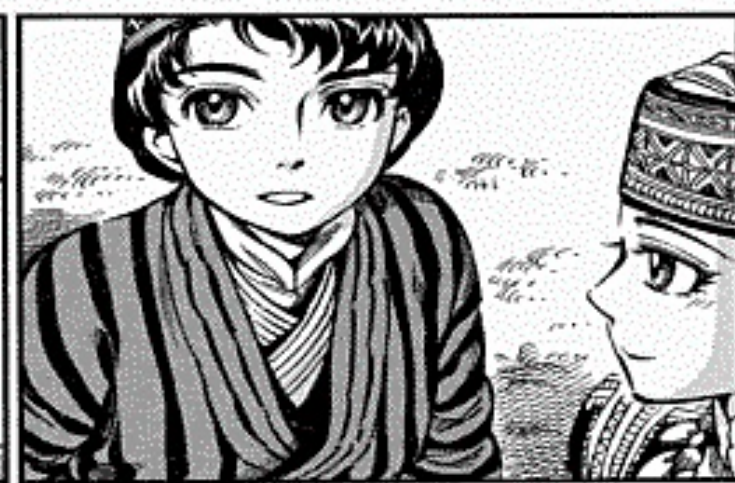
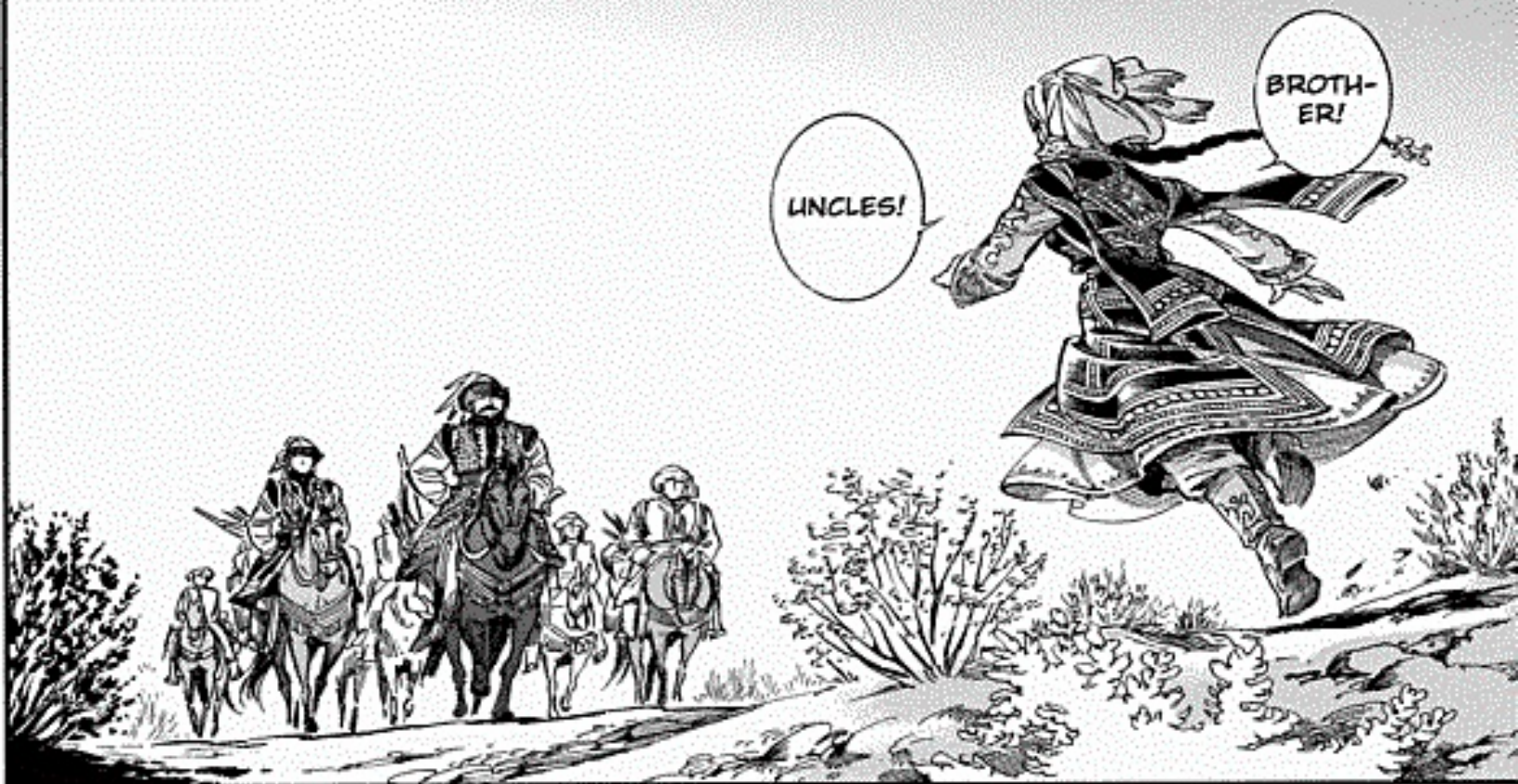


◆
CHAPTER SEVEN
BATTLE
(PART I)
◆











I SEE NO
CHILDREN
HAVE BEEN
BORN.

.....



IT IS AN
HONOR
TO MEET
YOU,
UNCLE.

I AM
AMIR'S
HUS-
BAND.

KARLUK,
SON OF
AKUNBEK.



I THANK
YOU FOR
COMING
SO FAR.

YOU
MUST BE
TIRED.

PLEASE
COME TO
MY FAMILY
HOME.



NOT
YET.

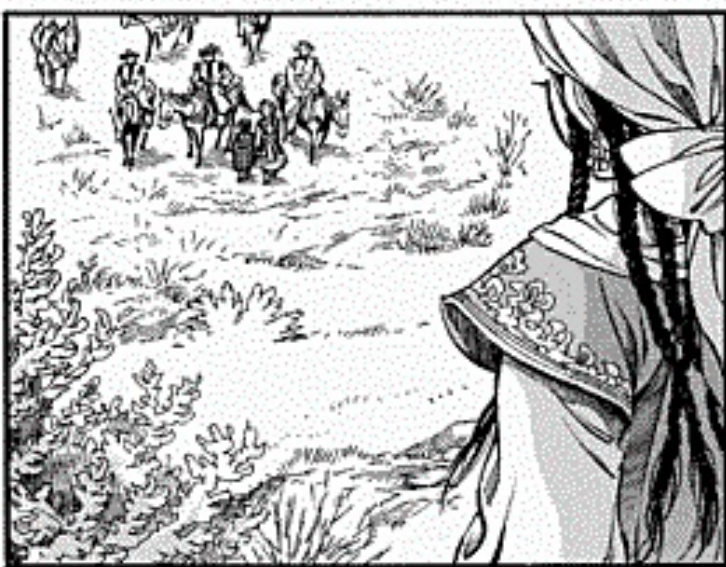
NO CHIL-
DREN.

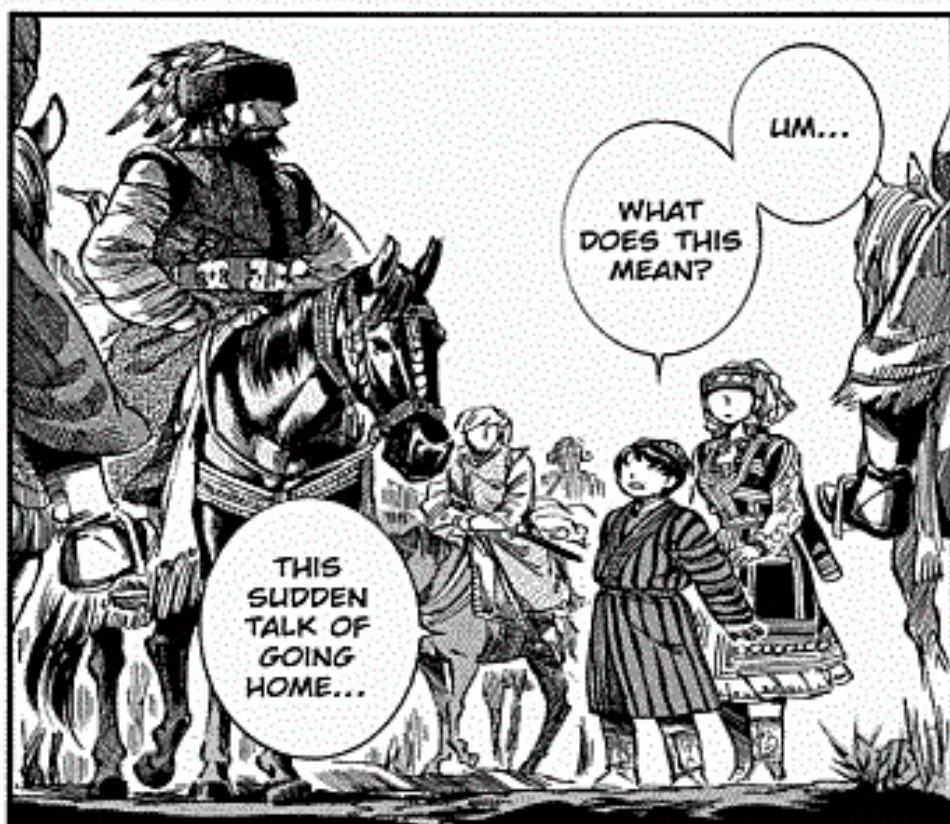
...NO.



.....









FIND
YOURSELF
ANOTHER.



SHE'S
TOO MUCH
WIFE FOR
YOU.

WE'VE
COME TO
TAKE BACK
AMIR.



THAT ISN'T
POSSIBLE!

AMIR
AND I ARE
MARRIED.

AND I
WILL DECIDE
WHAT
HAPPENS
TO HER!



.....





WHAT
ARE
YOU
DOING
...!?



BYU
(WHIP)



COME!



KA
(CLOP)



FORGET
HIM!

KARLUK
!!



BISHI
(SWAP)

OWW!!



ENOUGH
OF THIS!
GRAB
HER AND
LET'S
GO!!



KEEP OUT
OF IT!

THIS
IS A CLAN
MATTER!





...!!



AS
LONG AS
YOU
COME
HOME, WE
WON'T
HARM
HIM!

WE
HAVE NO
BUSI-
NESS
WITH THE
BOY!



AMIR!!

NEVER
MIND ME,
JUST
RUN
BACK
TO THE
HOUSE!



ARGH!
THIS
SHOULD
HAVE
BEEN
DONE BY
NOW!!



IT
WILL BE
DIFFICULT
RIDING
DOUBLE.

WE
DON'T HAVE
A SPARE
HORSE.

FORGET
THE HORSE
AND TAKE
HER BACK
WITH US
NOW?

WHAT
WILL
WE
DO?



NO!

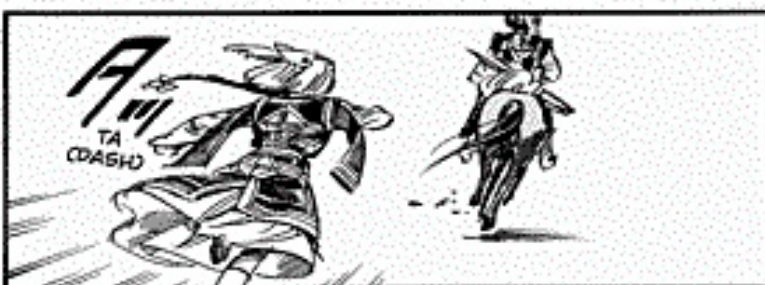
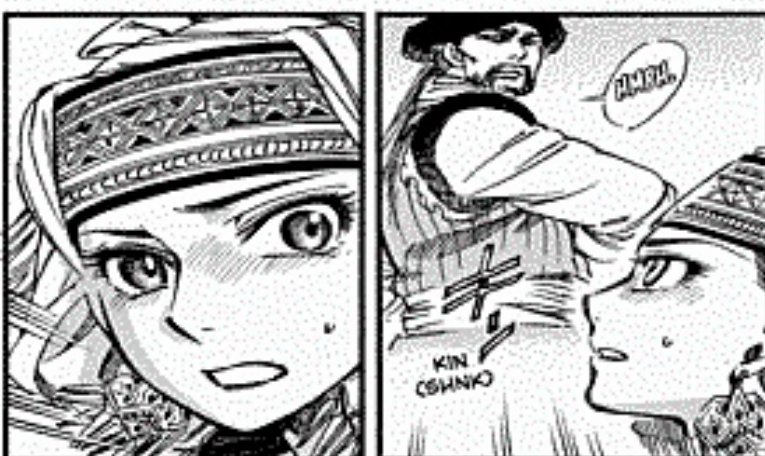
STOP.
THAT WILL
ONLY MAKE
THINGS
HARDER.



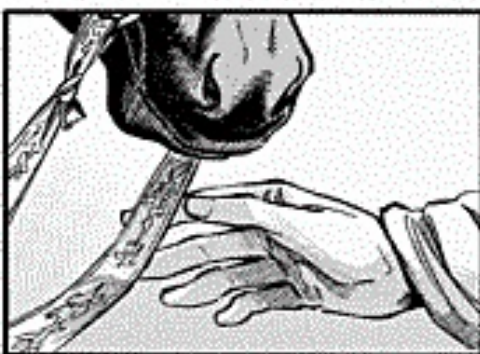
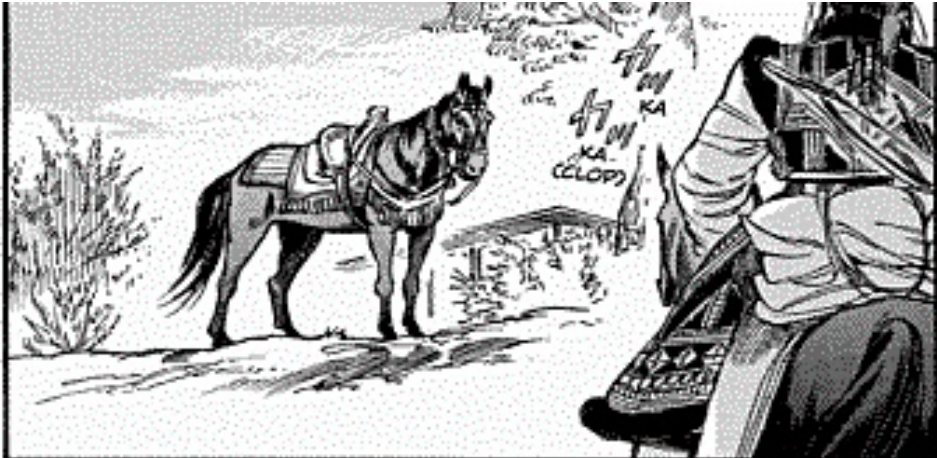
I'M GOING
TO MAKE SURE
SHE HAS
NOTHING HERE
TO COME BACK
TO!!



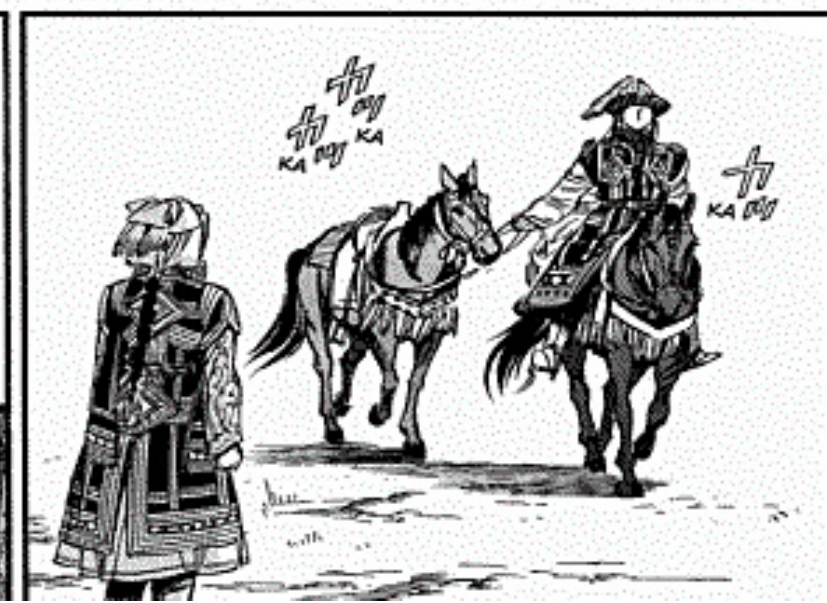
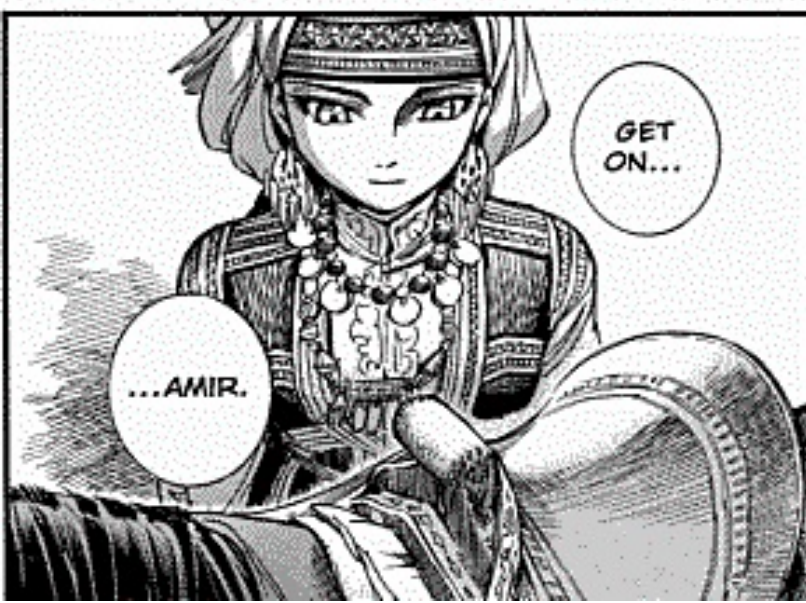
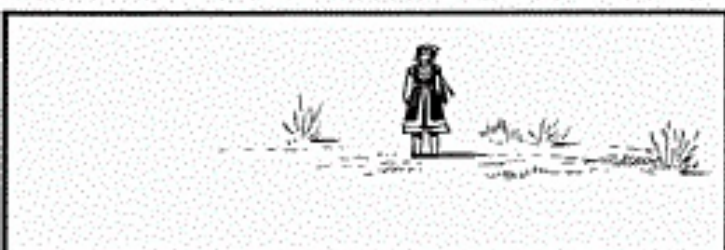
NO,
PLEASE
DON'T!



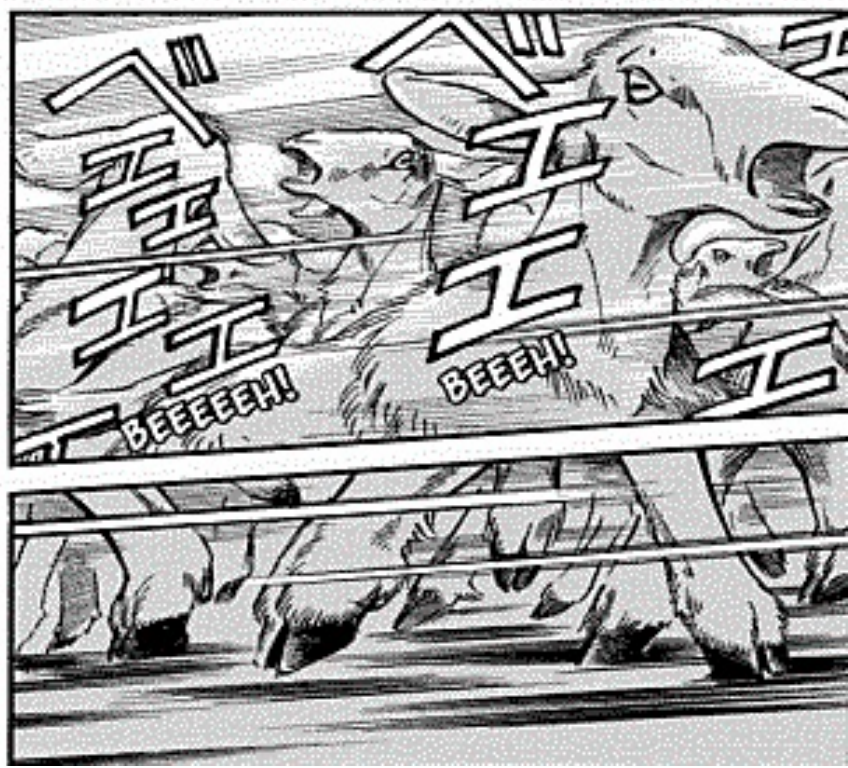




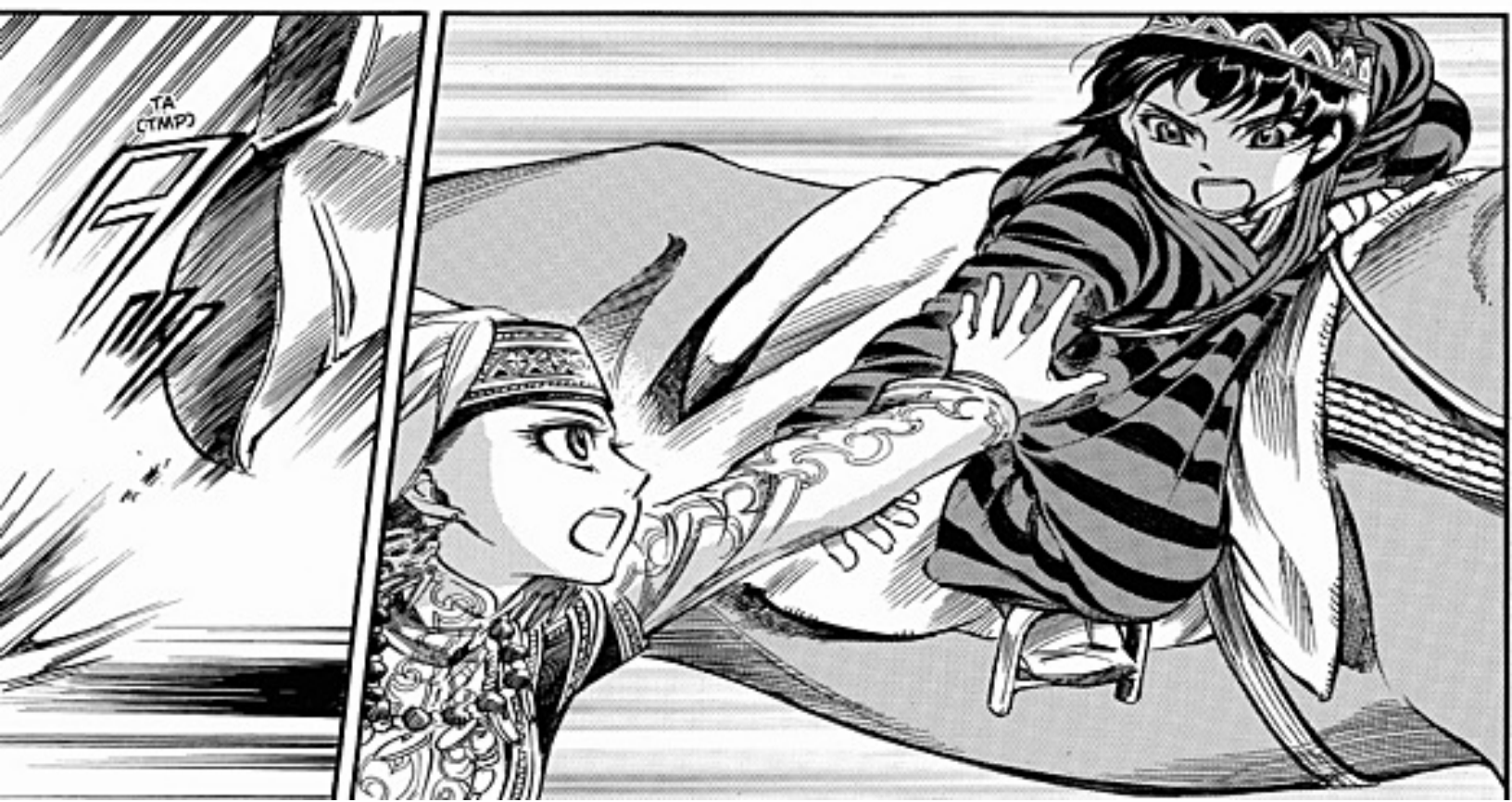
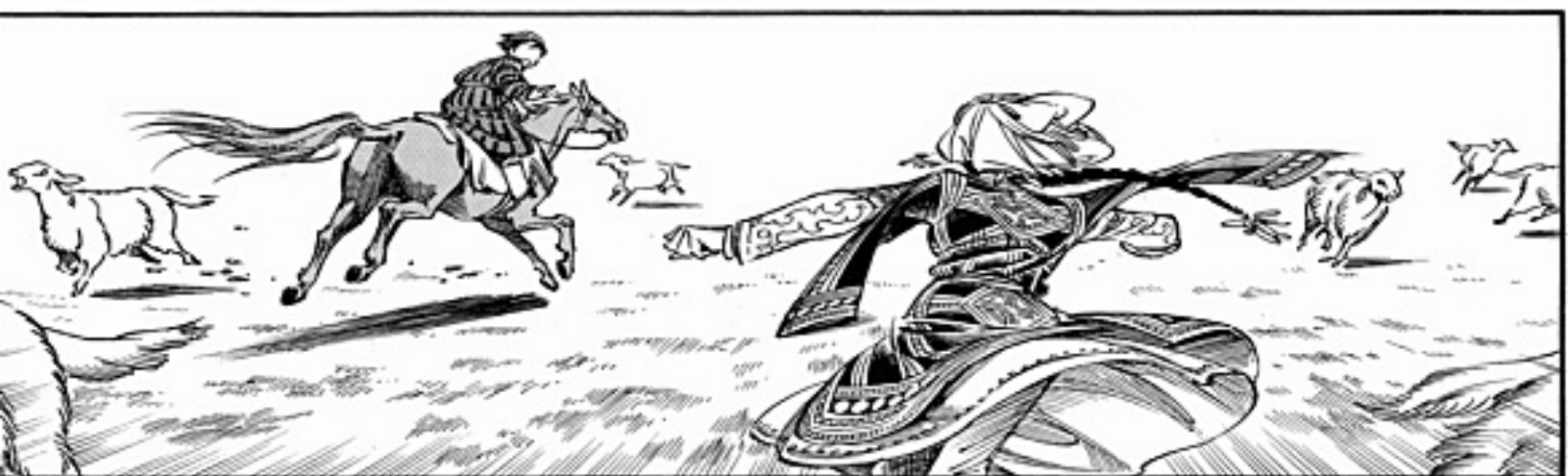
SFX: DOTO (GALLOP) DOTO

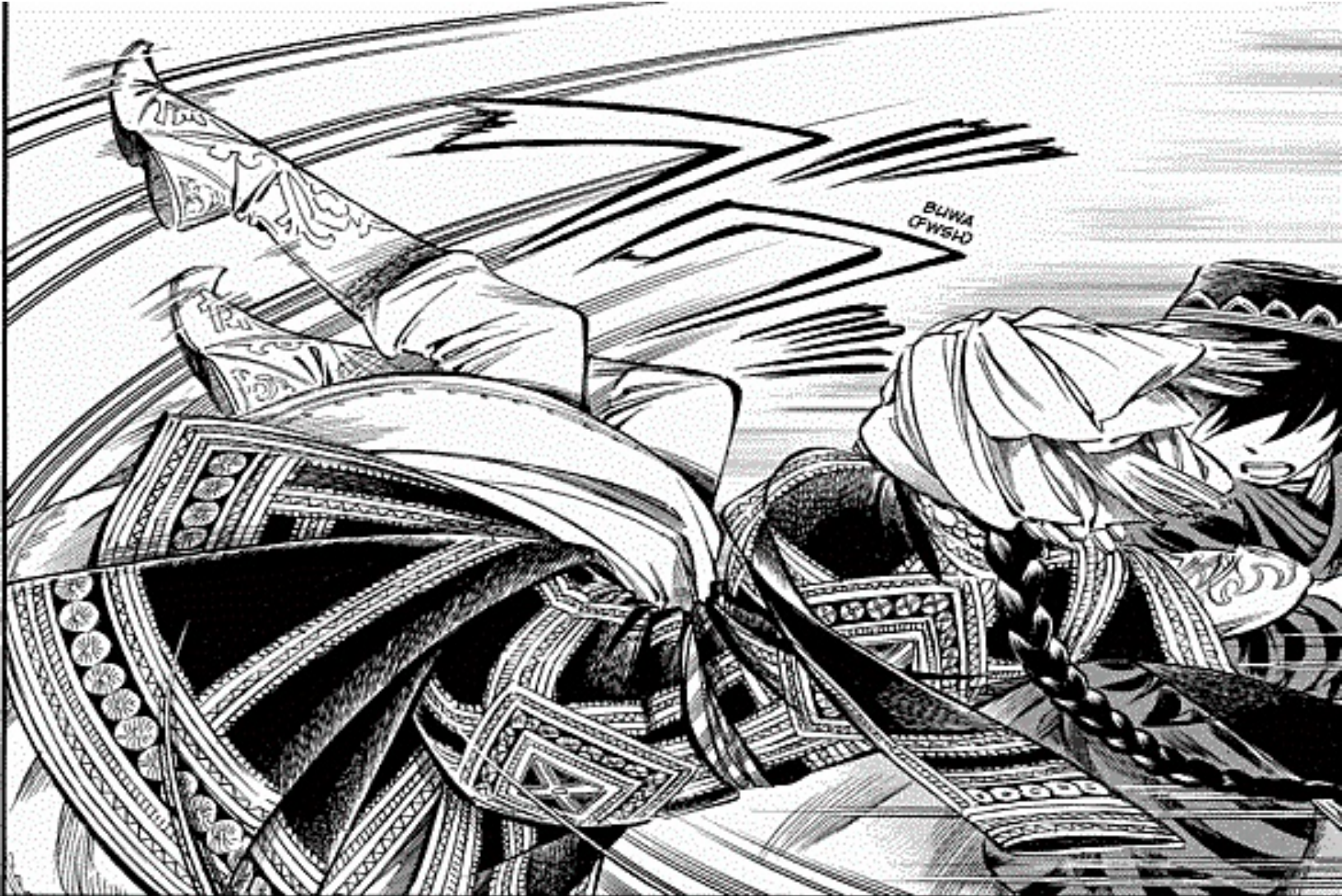
















IS THAT
SO?

THE
YOUNG
MEN ARE
GOING OUT
TO STOP
THEM,
BUT...

THEY'VE
ALREADY
COME IN
CLOSE.



BUT
THIS IS A
DISASTER.

FOR YOUR
RELATIVES
TO HAVE
COME TO
THIS...



I WON'T
LET THEM
SET ONE
FOOT IN OUR
TOWN!



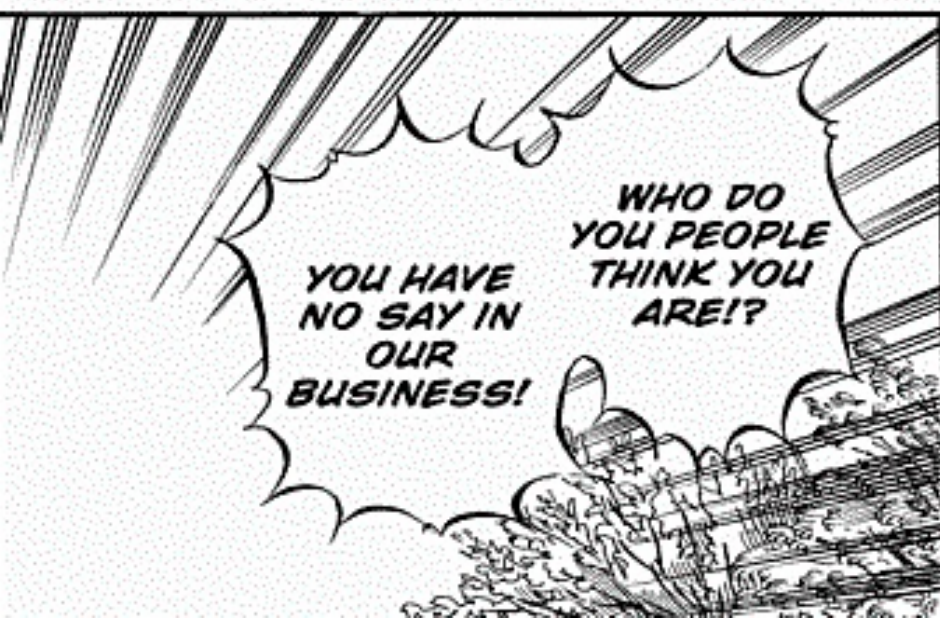
IT'S A
PRETTY
COMMON
STORY.

THE LATE
CHIEF ELDER
USED TO BE AN
HONORABLE
MAN...



WELL...

...MAYBE
WE MADE A
SMALL MIS-
JUDGMENT.



YOU HAVE
NO SAY IN
OUR
BUSINESS!

WHO DO
YOU PEOPLE
THINK YOU
ARE!?



THEY HAVE
TEN HORSEMEN
AT MOST. I
DON'T THINK
THEY CAN DO
MUCH DAMAGE,
BUT...



WE'RE
NOT LETTING
OUTSIDERS
RUN ROUGH-
SHOD OVER
OUR TOWN!

NO
SAY!?

SURE
WE GOT
A SAY!

THAT'D
SULLY
THE
NAME
OF THE
TOWN
ASSEMBLY!

PROBLEMS
IN THE
TOWN ARE
THE
BUSINESS
OF ALL THE
TOWNS-
PEOPLE!



YOU
ATE UP
ALL THE
APRICOTS
IN MY
GARDEN
TREE, YOU
THIEVES
!!

GO
AWAY!
GO
HOME!

YEAH!
GO
HOME!



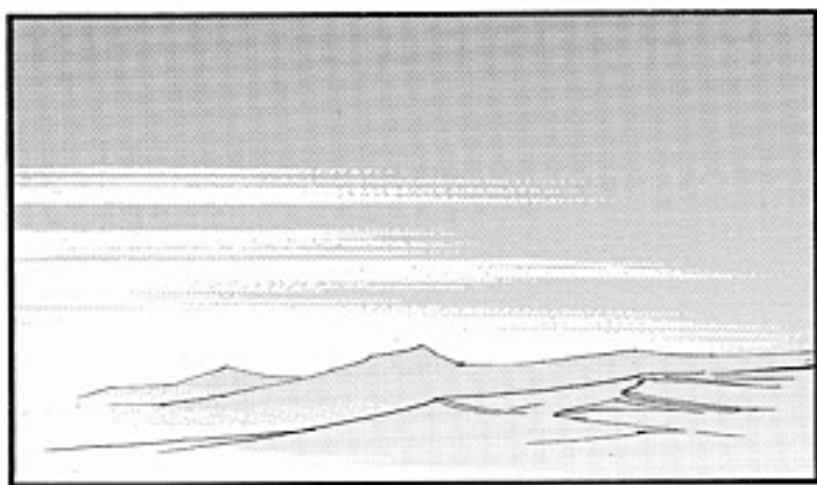
WHAT
IS THE
PROB-
LEM
WITH
THESE
PEOPLE
...!?

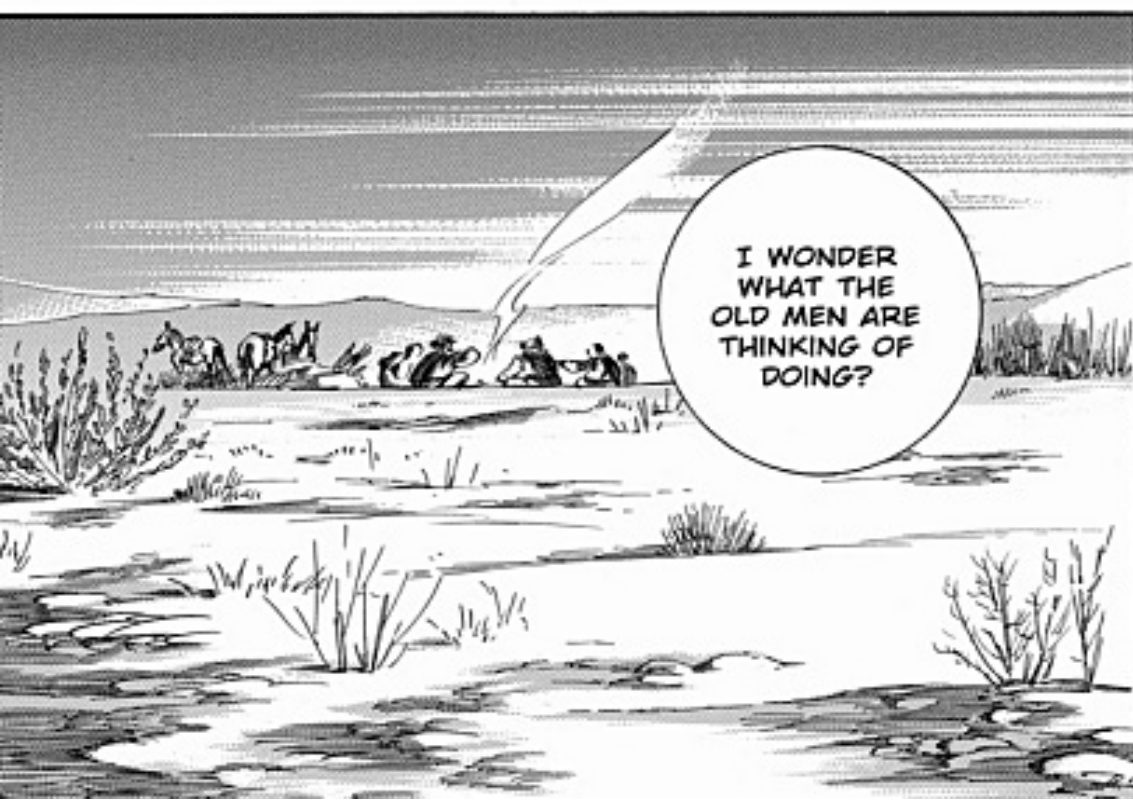


IT
WASN'T
ALL OF
THEM.....

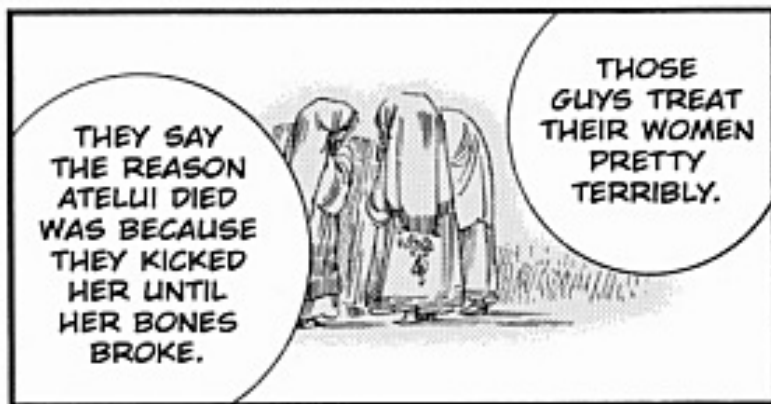
THEY'RE
NOT
MAKING
ANY
SENSE!

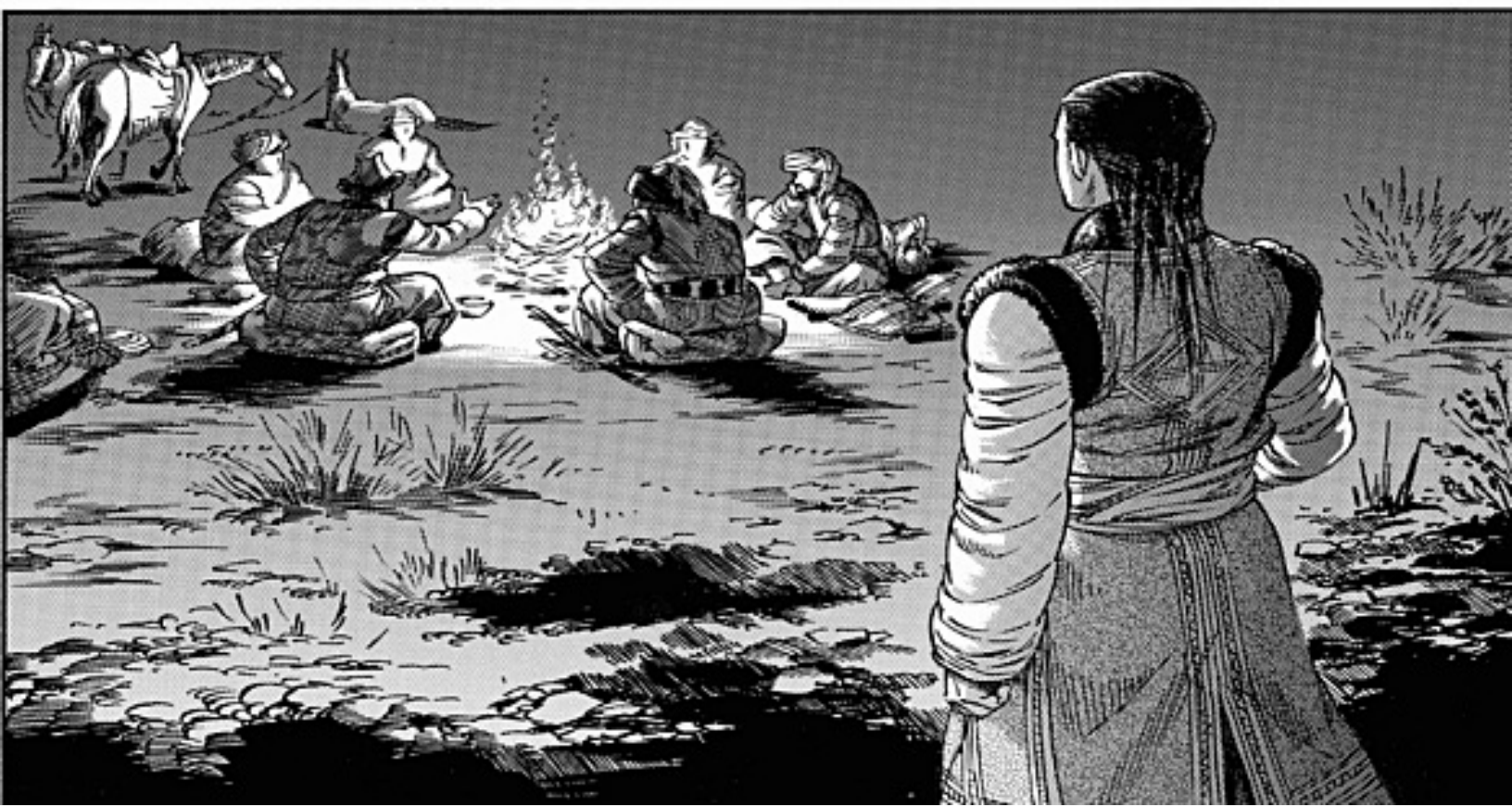














WELL, IT
DOESN'T
MATTER.

WE'RE
GOING BACK
WITH AMIR EVEN
IF WE HAVE
TO TIE HER UP
AND DRAG
HER HOME.



DO PEOPLE
OF THIS TOWN
ALWAYS BUTT
INTO OTHERS'
PRIVATE
FAMILY
BUSINESS!?

RIGHT!

I WANT
TO KNOW
WHY THEY
HAVE TO
STICK THEIR
NOSES INTO
THIS!



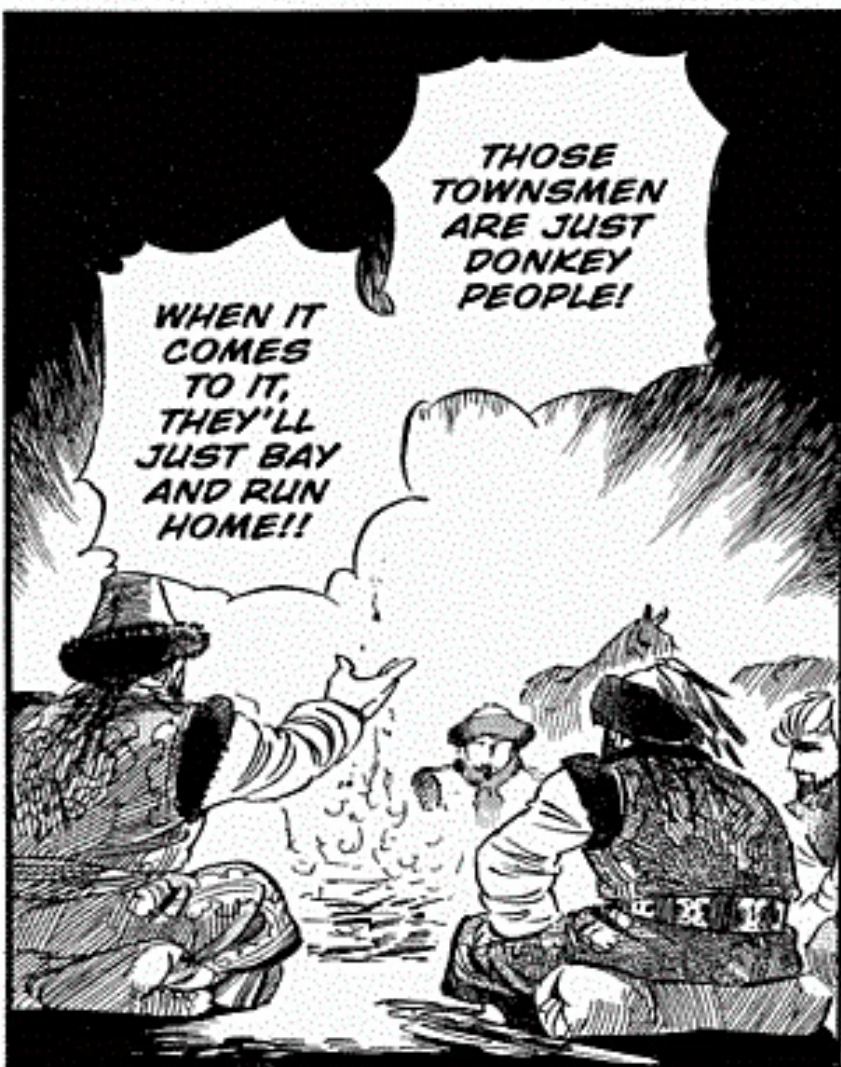
BRING
THAT
TOO.

YOU
BROUGHT
ALONG
SOME
BREAD,
RIGHT?



IS
THIS
ALL?

I'LL
BRING
THE
REST
AFTER.



THOSE
TOWNSMEN
ARE JUST
DONKEY
PEOPLE!

WHEN IT
COMES
TO IT,
THEY'LL
JUST BAY
AND RUN
HOME!!



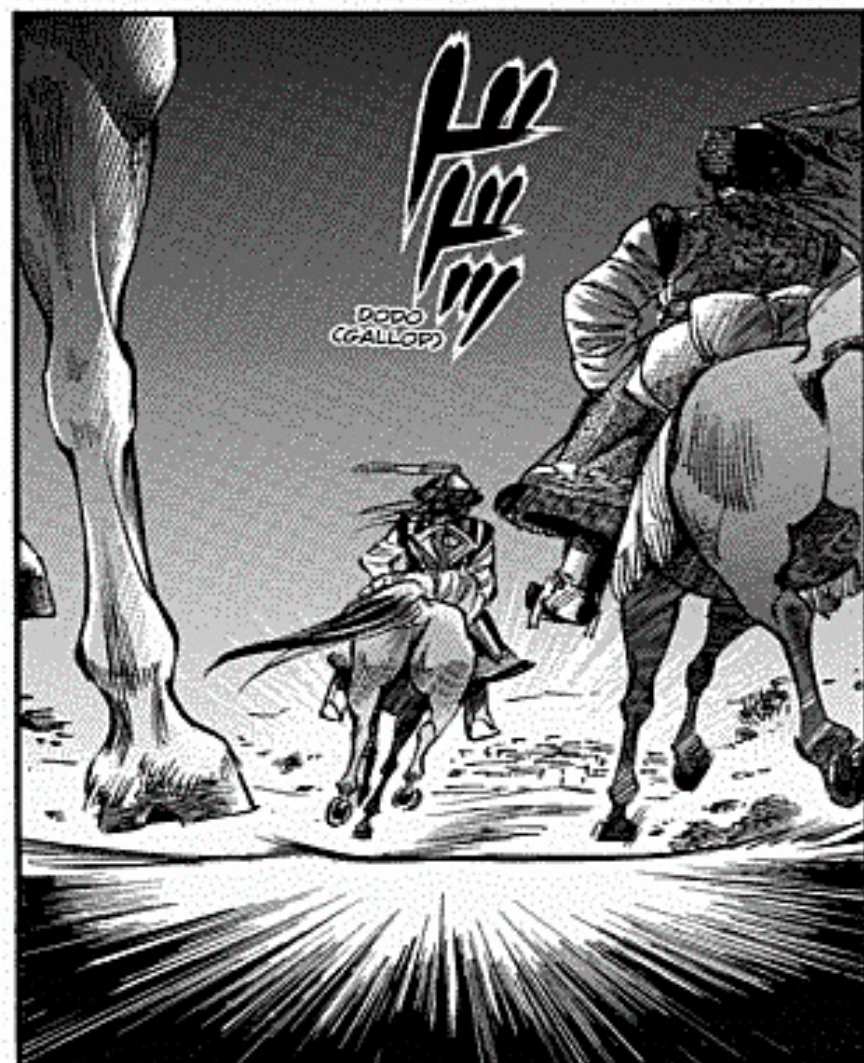
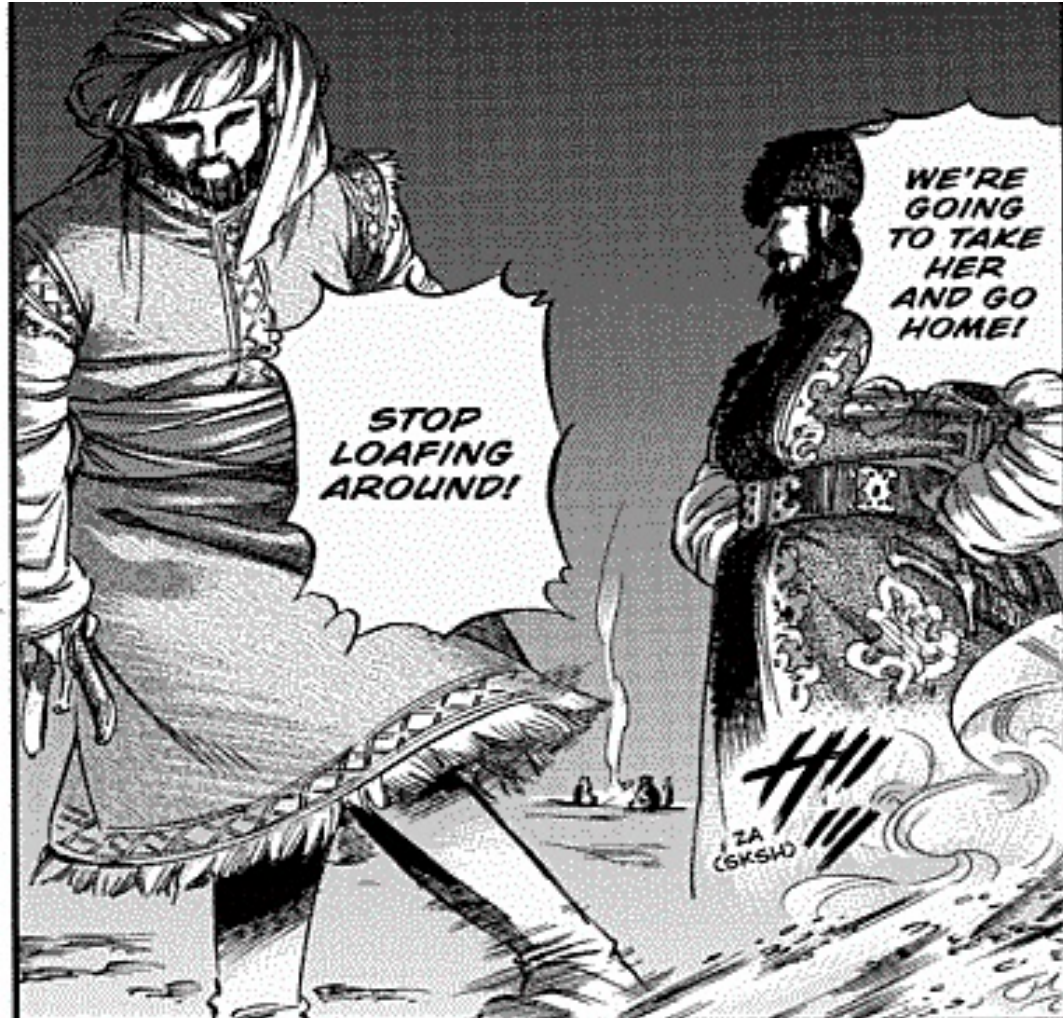
ARE WE
GOING AT
DAWN?

NIGHT
WOULD BE
BEST.



RIGHT!
WE CAN'T
STAY HERE
FOREVER!

IF WE'RE
GOING, THE
SOONER
THE
BETTER.





THEY'RE
COMING.

THEY'RE
COMING
JUST AS WE
THOUGHT.



TELL
EVERYONE
THEY DON'T
HAVE TO
HOLD
BACK.

ANY PAST
RELATIONS
WITH THEM
ARE NOW
SEVERED!

FATHER!



THEY'RE
NOT QUITE
SO PEACE
LOVING AS
THAT.

I'D HOPED
THEY
MIGHT GIVE
UP AND
GO HOME,
BUT...



FA-
THER!

TRUE.
DOESN'T
GIVE US
MUCH
CHOICE!

IF
THAT'S
THE WAY
THEY
WANT IT.

WELL,
THAT
DECIDES
IT FOR
US.



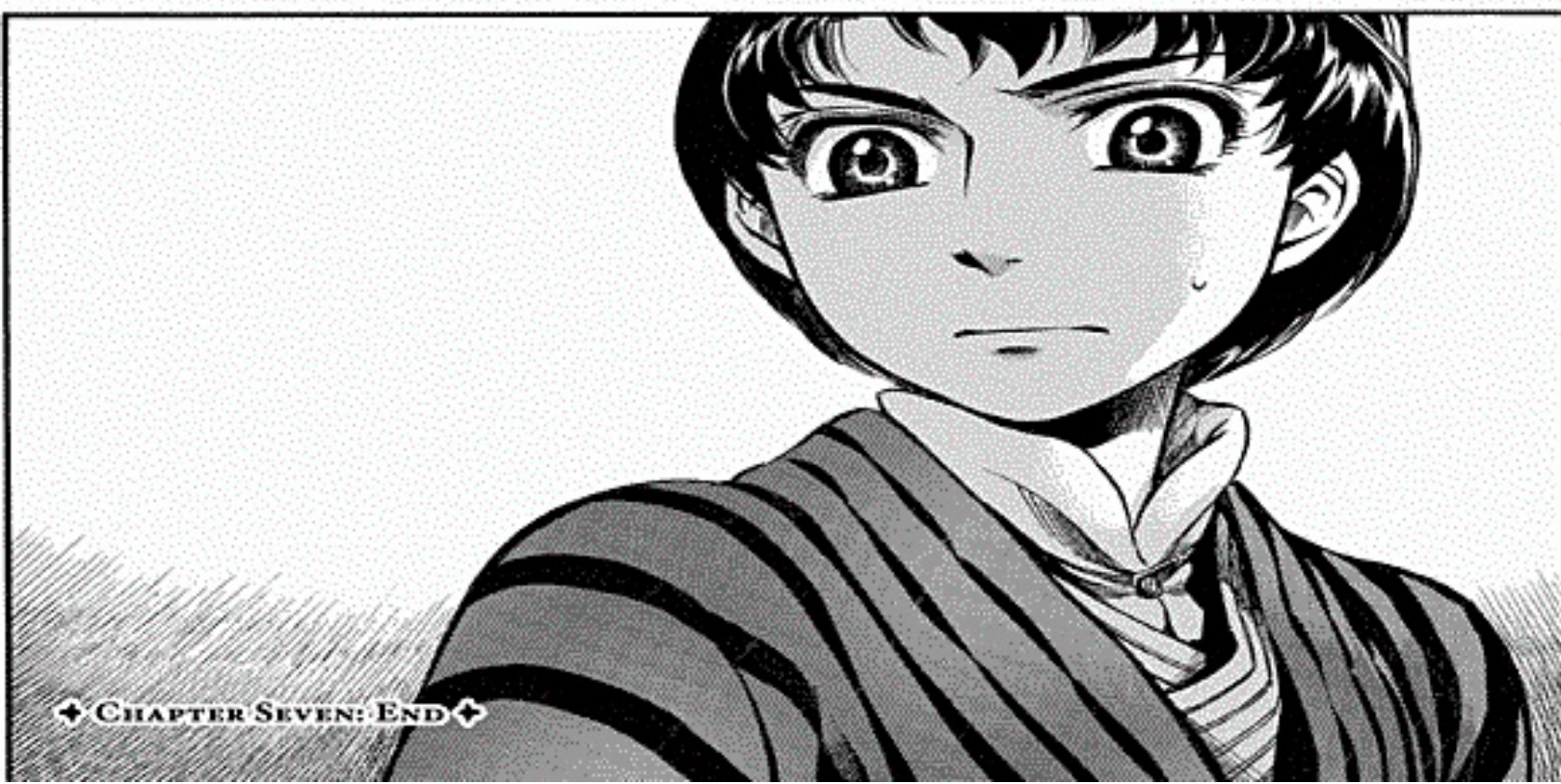
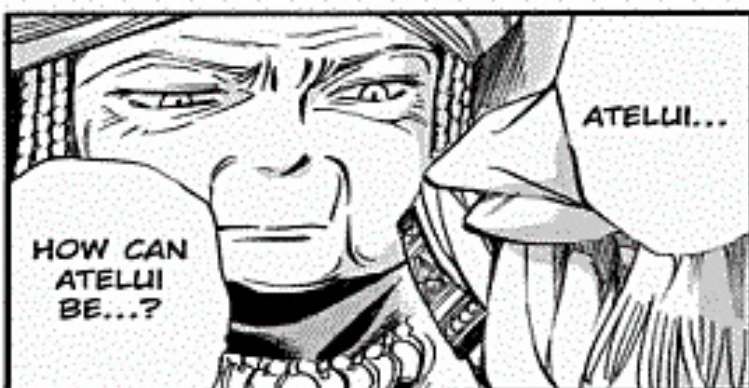
YOU
LEAVE THIS
TO THE
REST OF
US.

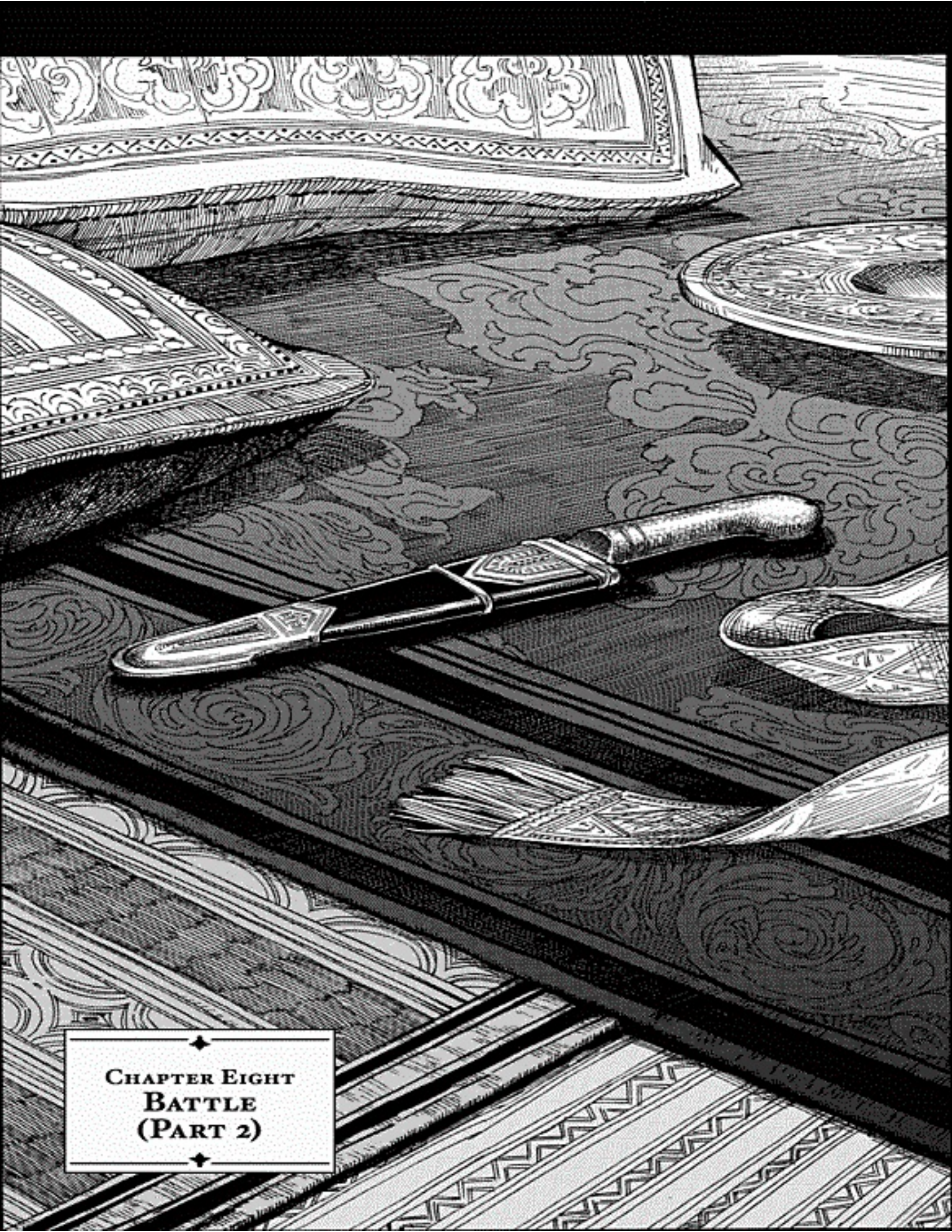


NO, YOU
STAY
HERE!

YOU ARE
NOT TO
TAKE
PART!

FATHER,
I'LL GO
TOO...





◆
CHAPTER EIGHT
BATTLE
(PART 2)
◆







WAAAH!







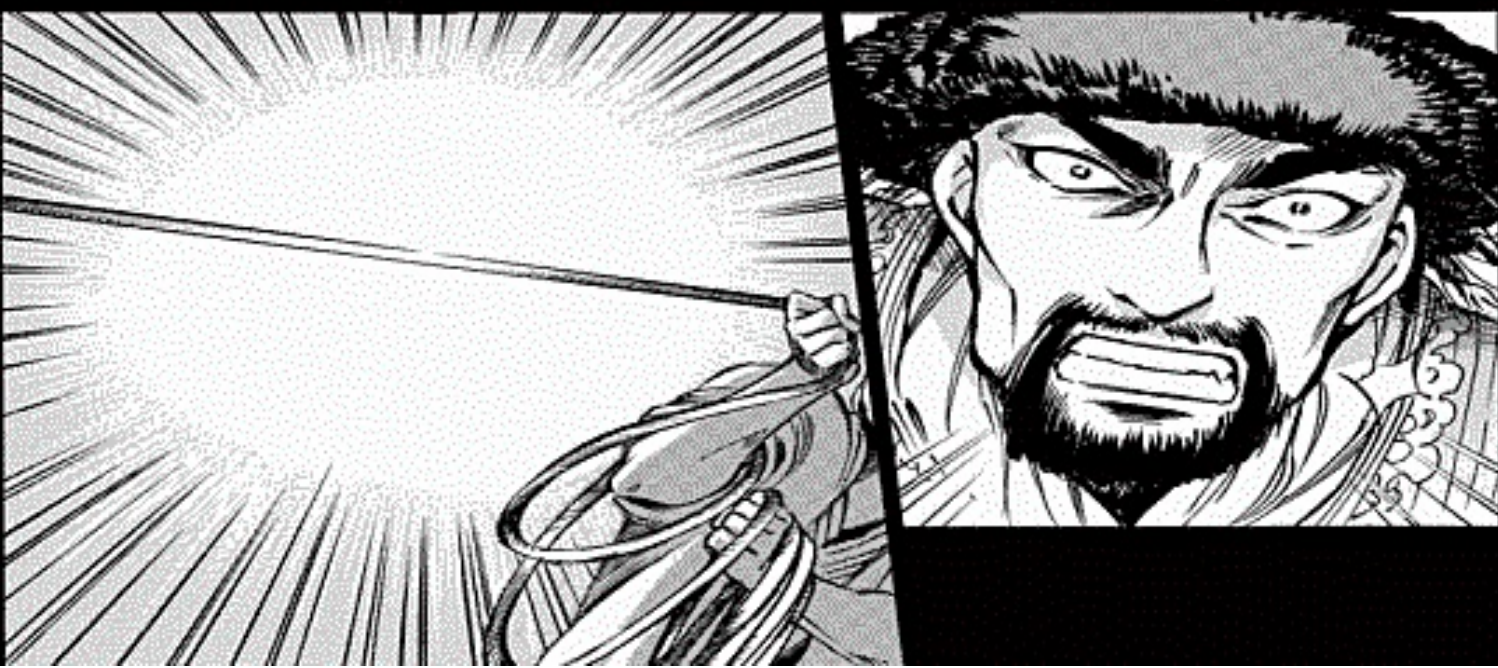




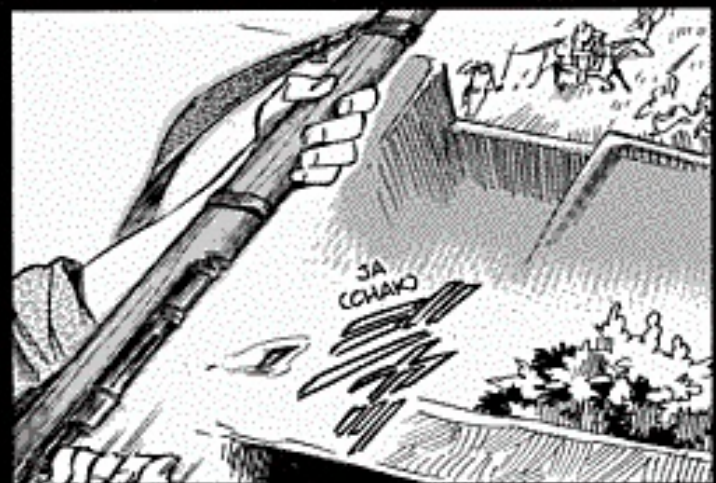
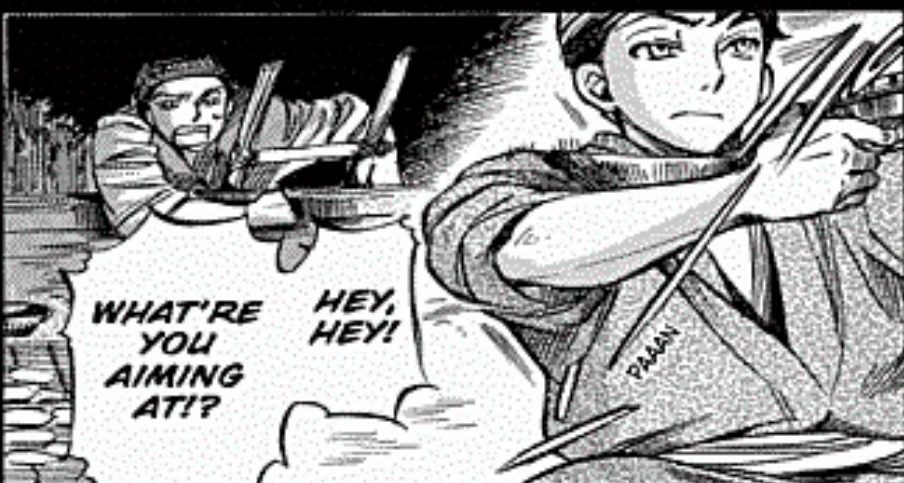
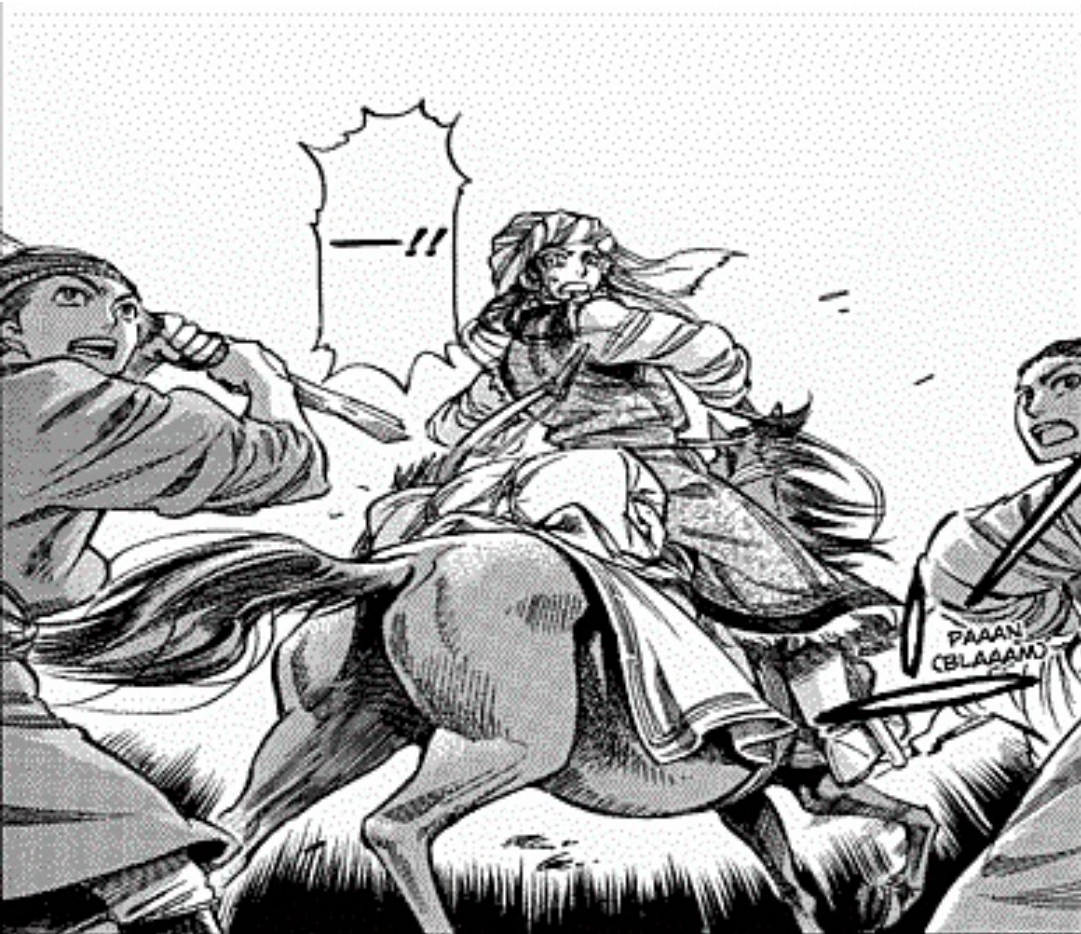


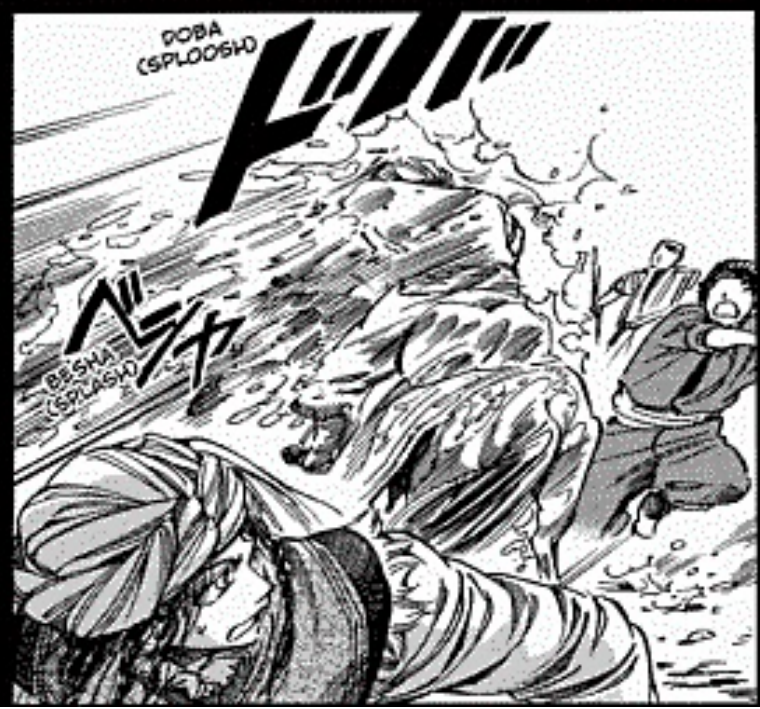
SFX: BOGU GO DOKA DOGO BAKI GA GOSU DOKA









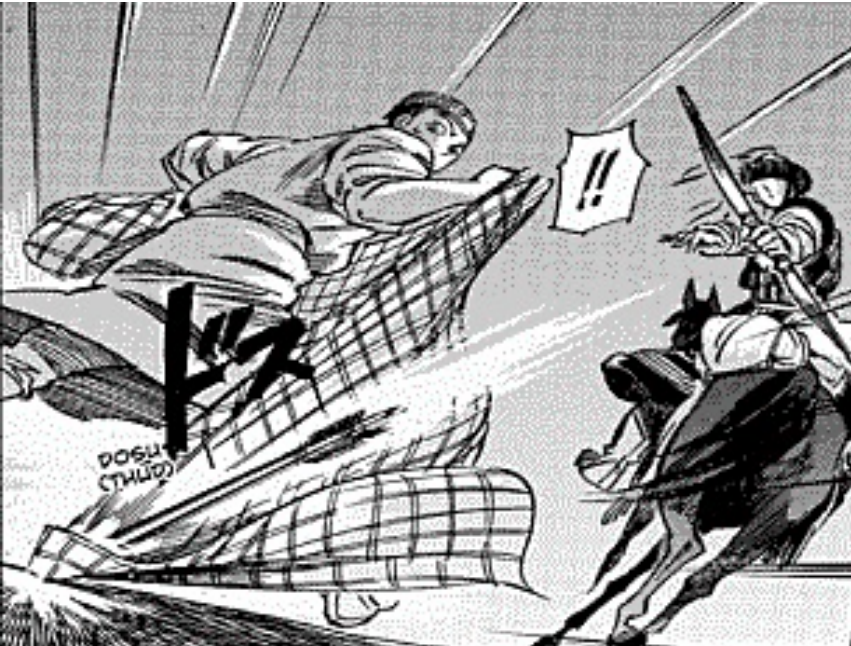




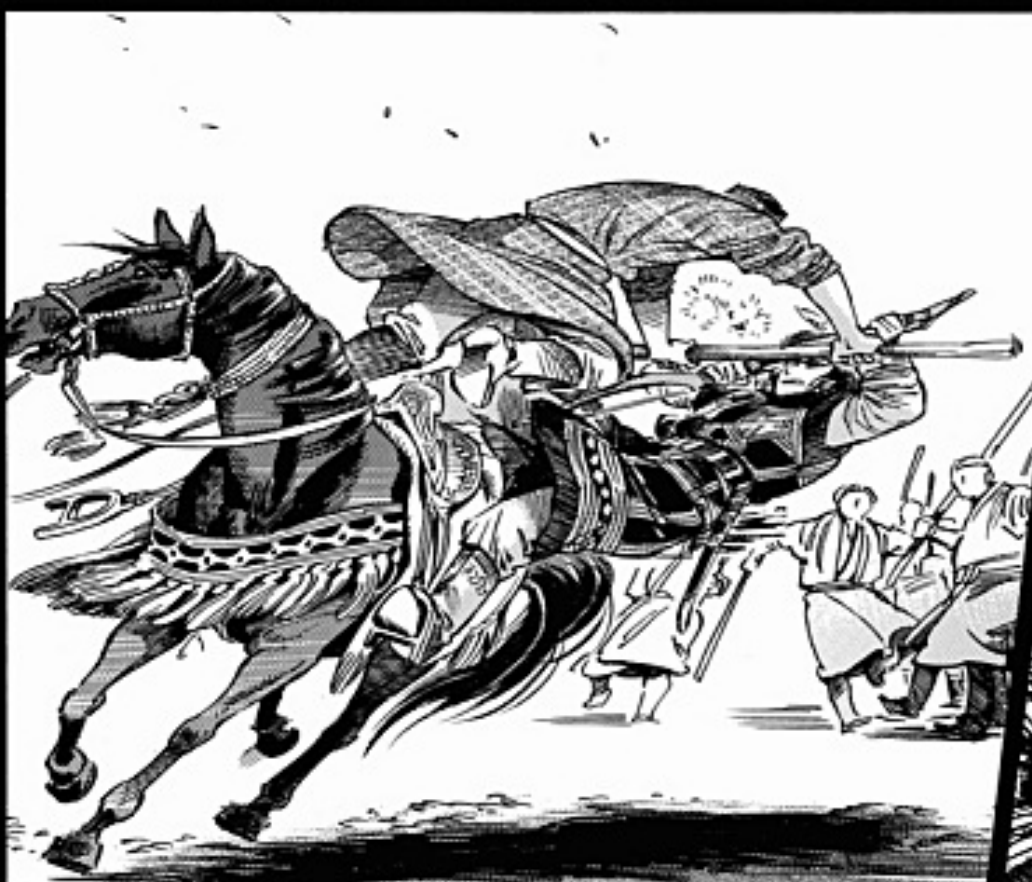


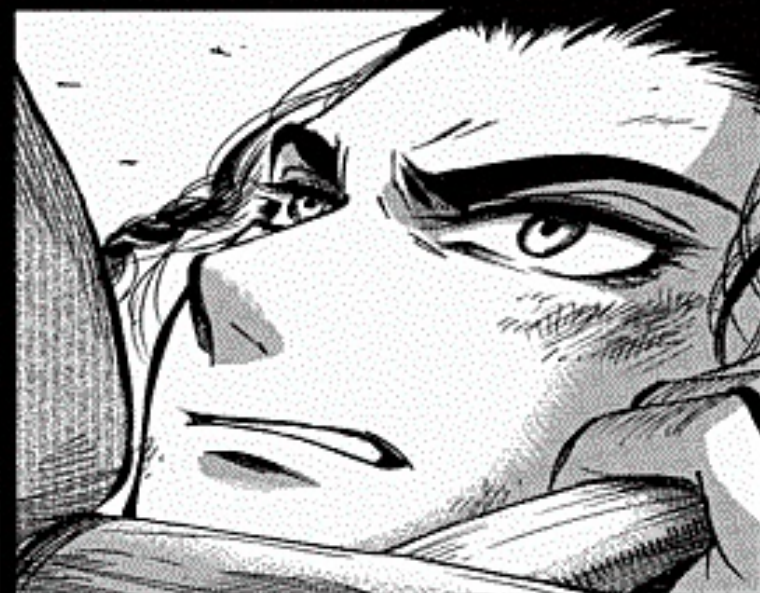


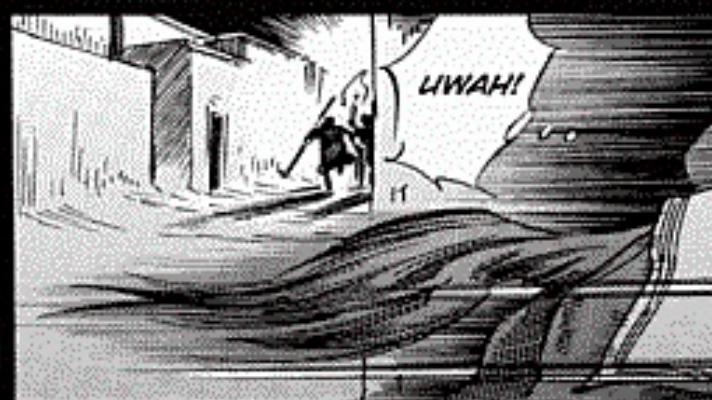














FROM
ABOVE
...?



I
FOUND
HER,
BUT...



I COULD GO
FROM THAT
ROOF OVER
THERE...

THERE
HE IS!

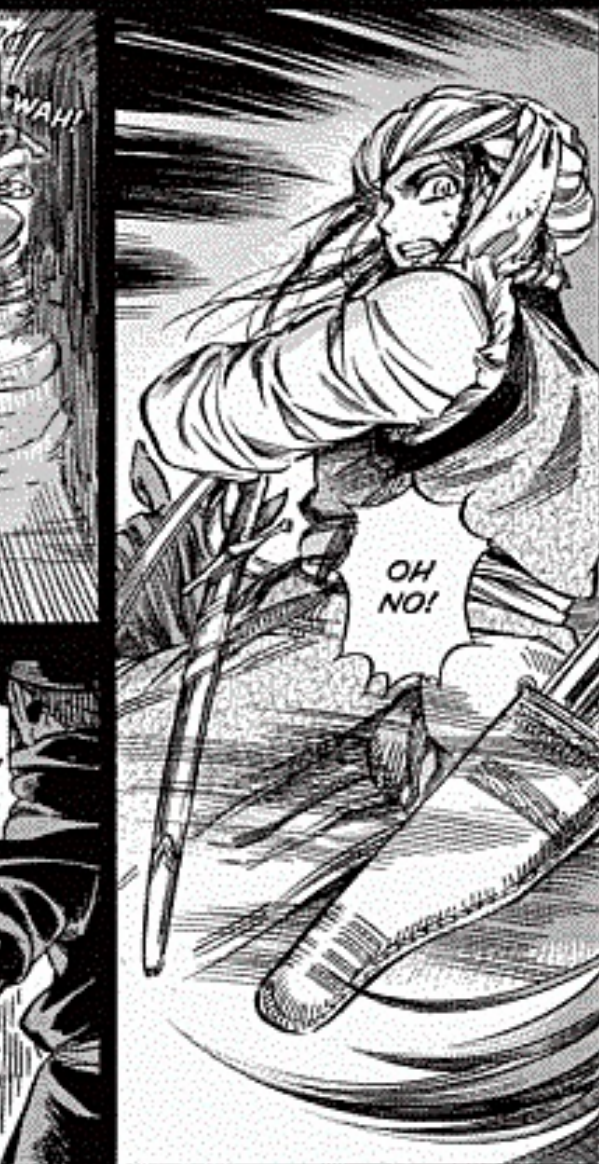
NO, THEY'D
SEE ME FOR
SURE.

...WHAT
AM I
SUP-
POSED
TO
DO...!?



BAS-
TARD!

HOW'D
YOU GET
ALL THE
WAY
HERE!?



OH
NO!



DAM-
MIT!

STOP!

WAIT!

OW!

REF: BOGU DOGA DOBU GO DOGA DOGA





THE NUMAJI HAVE GAINED A LOT OF POWER RECENTLY.

YES.

THEY SAID MORE ABOUT THIS NUMAJI CLAN?



YES, SIR.

TAKE THEM OUTSIDE OF TOWN AND LEAVE THEM TO DRY IN THE SUN.

NOT LONG ENOUGH TO KILL THEM.

HEY, GET UP!



EVER SINCE THEY FORMED CONNECTIONS WITH THE NORTHERNERS.

HAVE THEY ALWAYS BEEN THAT WAY?



IF WE DON'T CLEAN THOSE UP, WE CAN'T USE THOSE ROADS.

WHAT'LL WE DO ABOUT THE BRICKS?

IT'S LATE. WE CAN DO IT TOMORROW.







GUGU
(GRRRO)



IT'S ALL
BECAUSE
YOU DIDN'T
COME BACK
IMMEDI-
ATELY...!

JOINING
THESE
TOWNSMEN
IN MAKING
SPORT
OF US...!



COME
ON!
STAND
UP!

STAND
UP, YOU
LITTLE
...!



GUGU
(YANKO)



DO
CHWAND



MYU
(FWP)







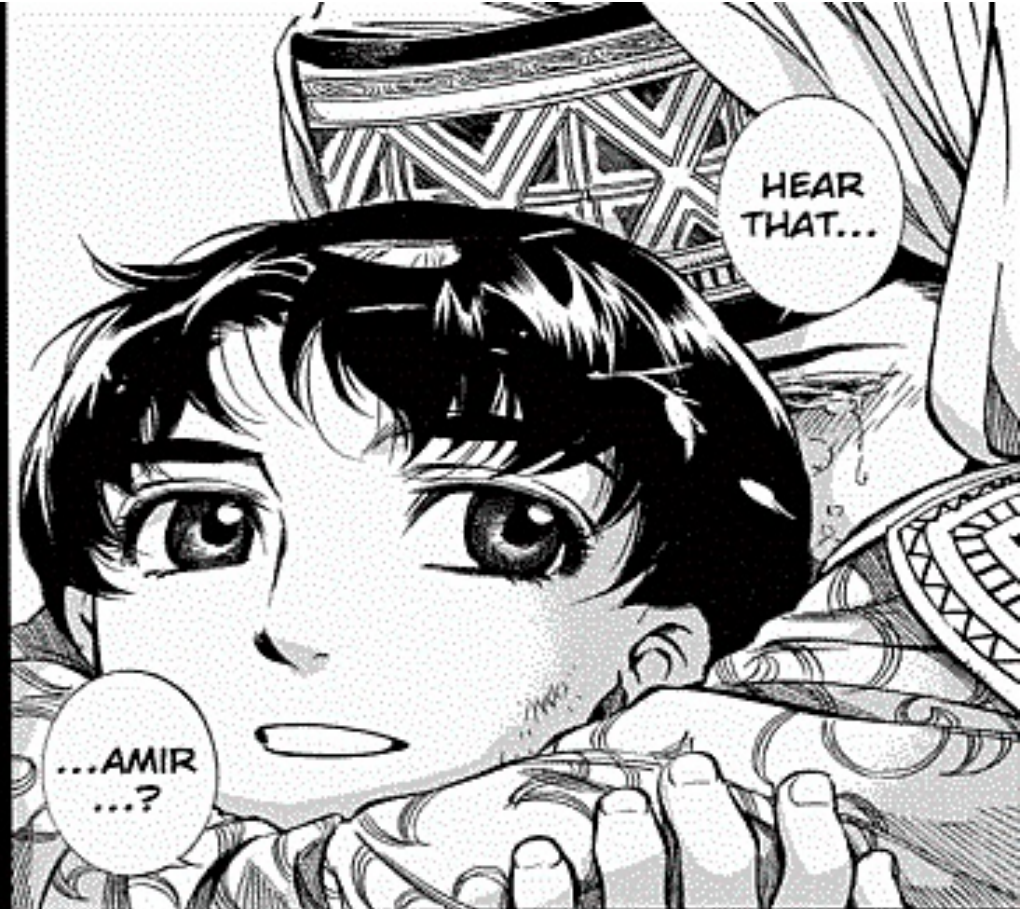
SFX: GOSU BAKI GASU BAKI GO DOKA GA BOGU

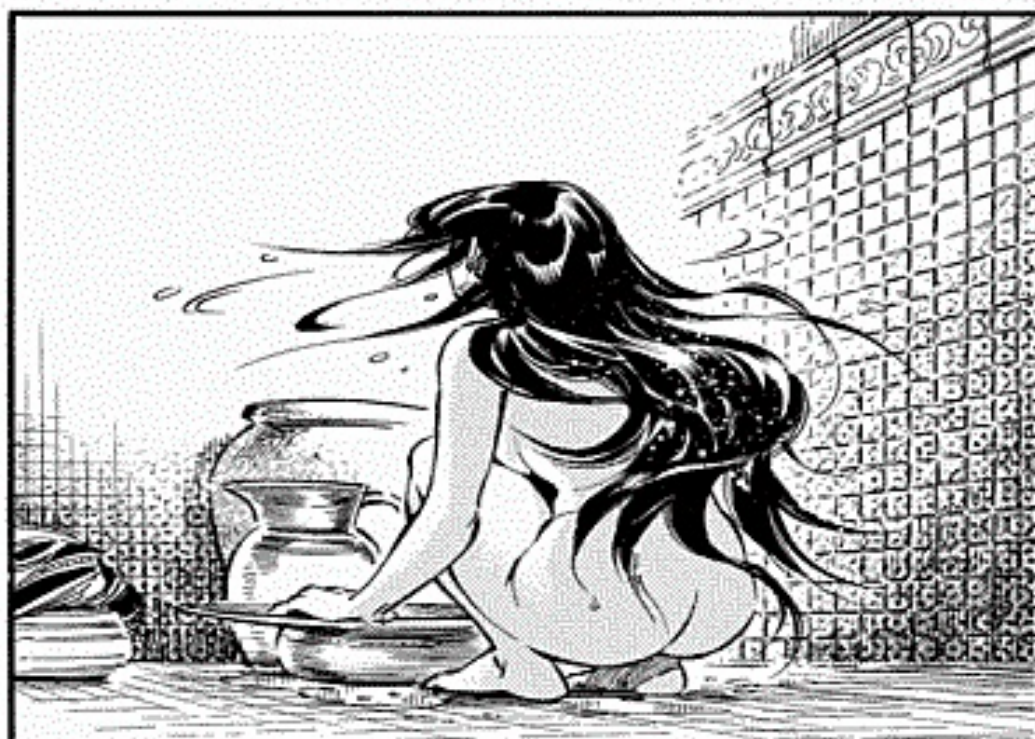
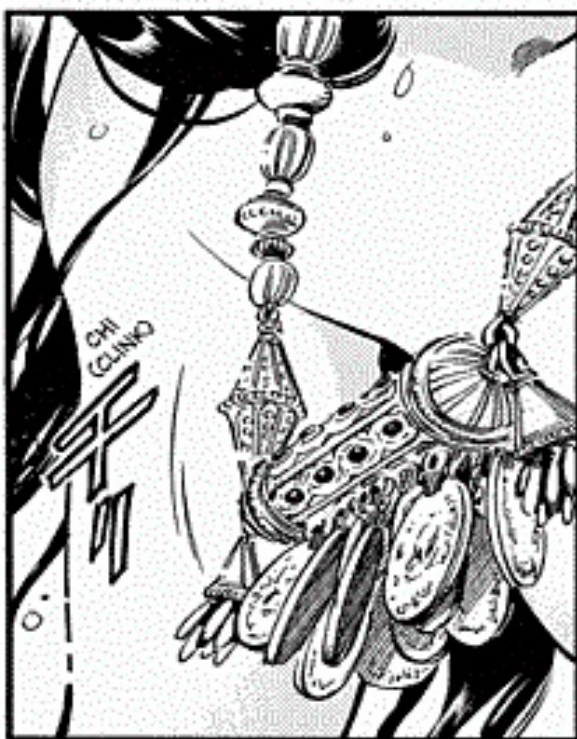
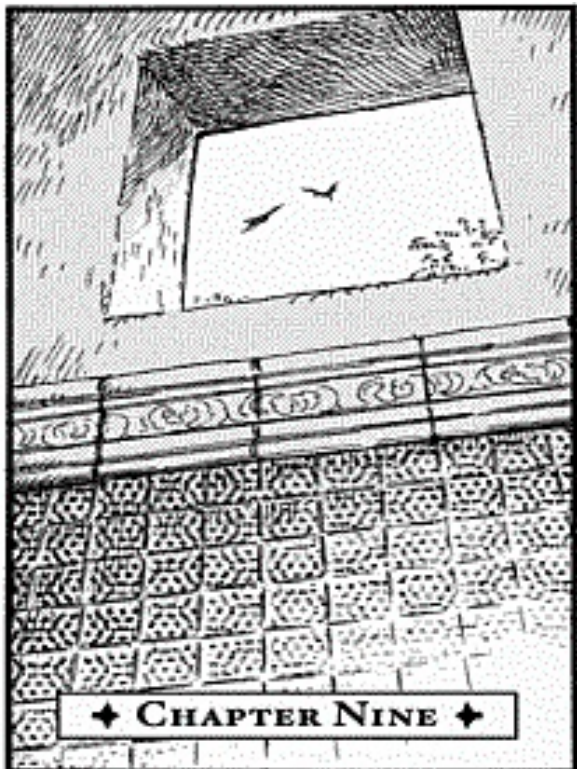






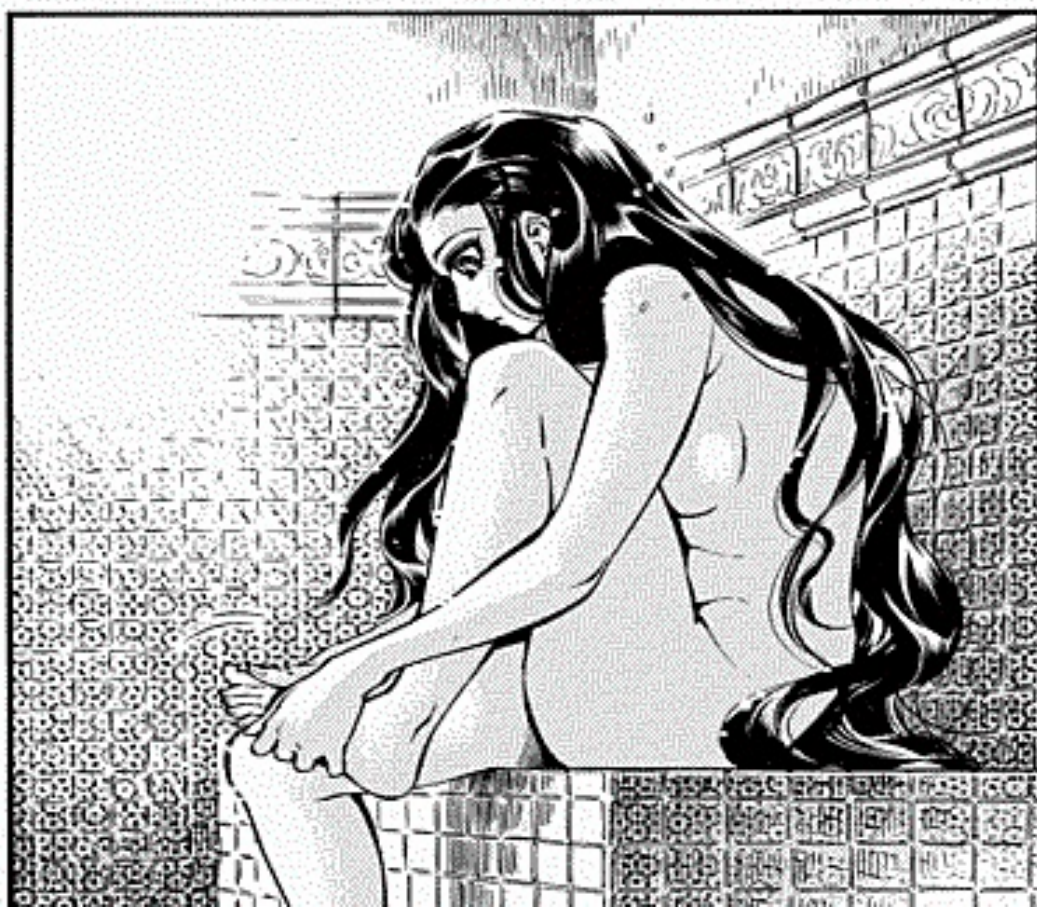
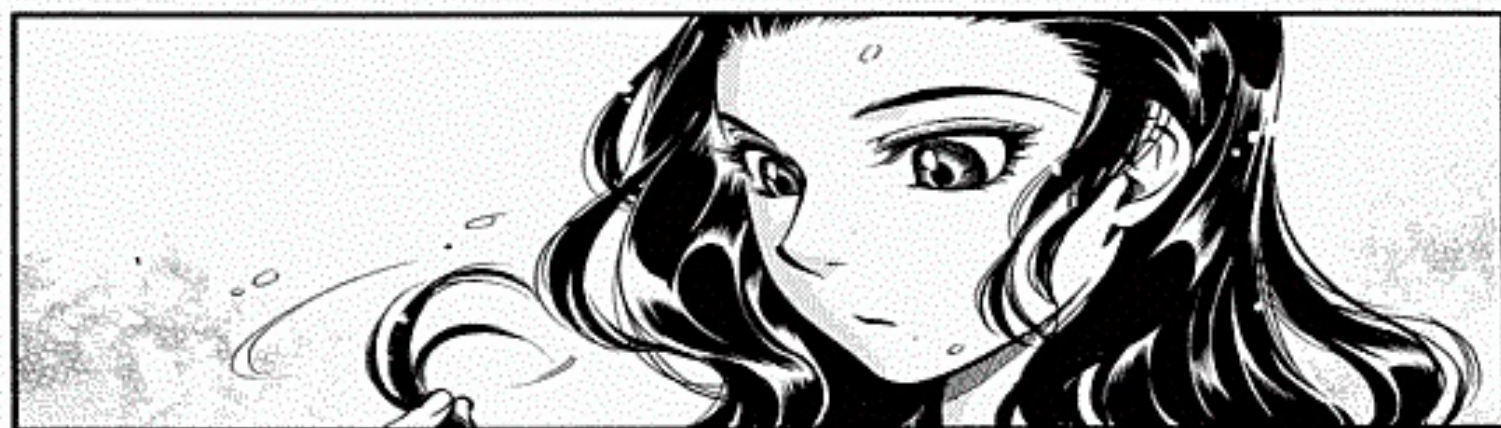


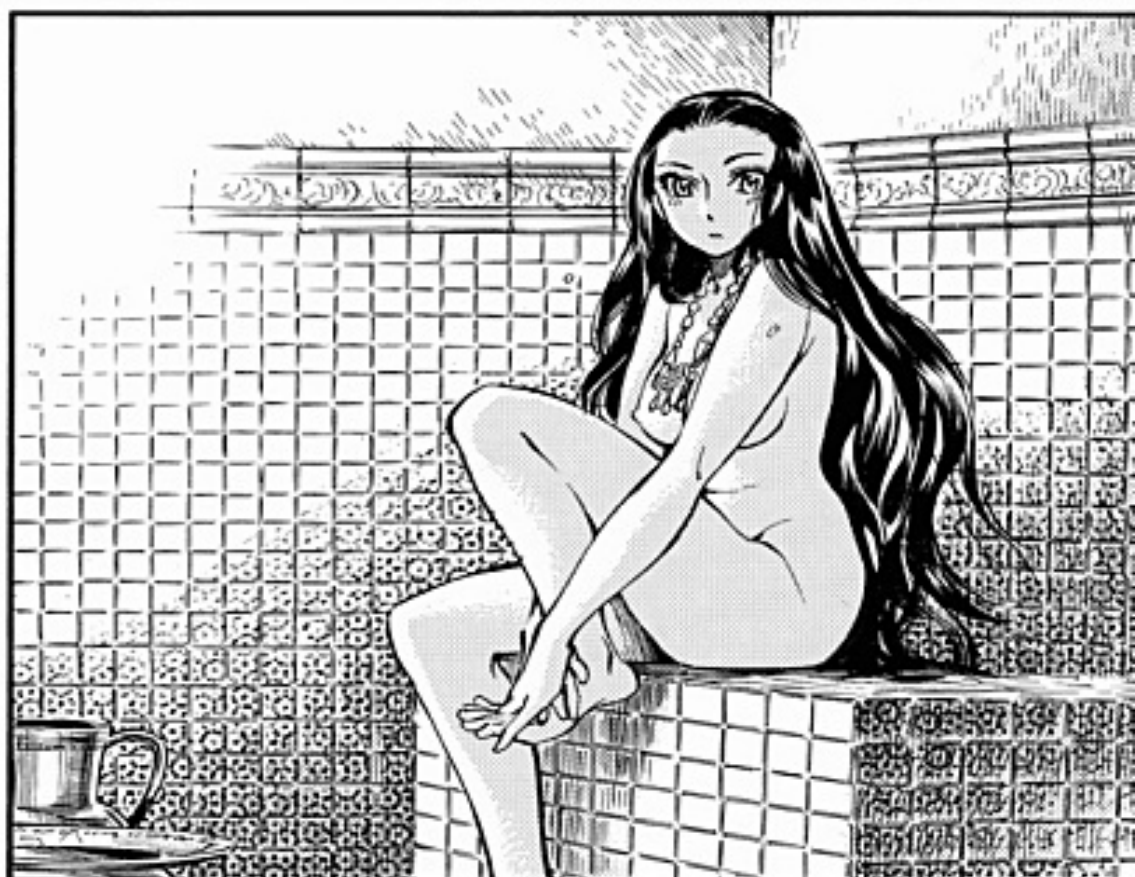
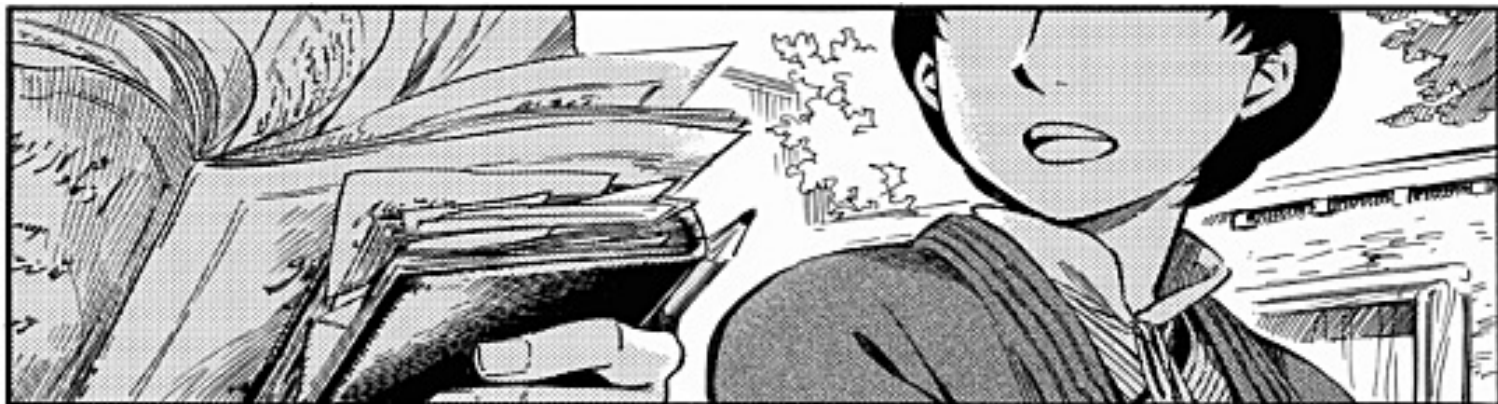






◆
CHAPTER NINE
HEART OF A
BRIDE
◆

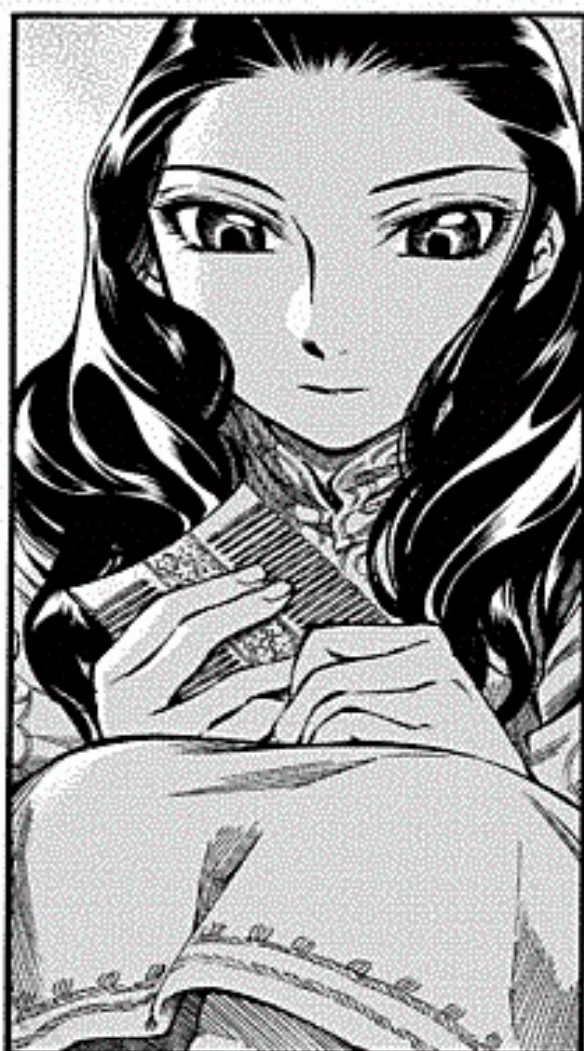
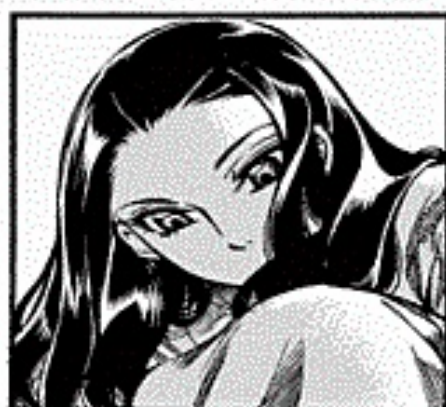


















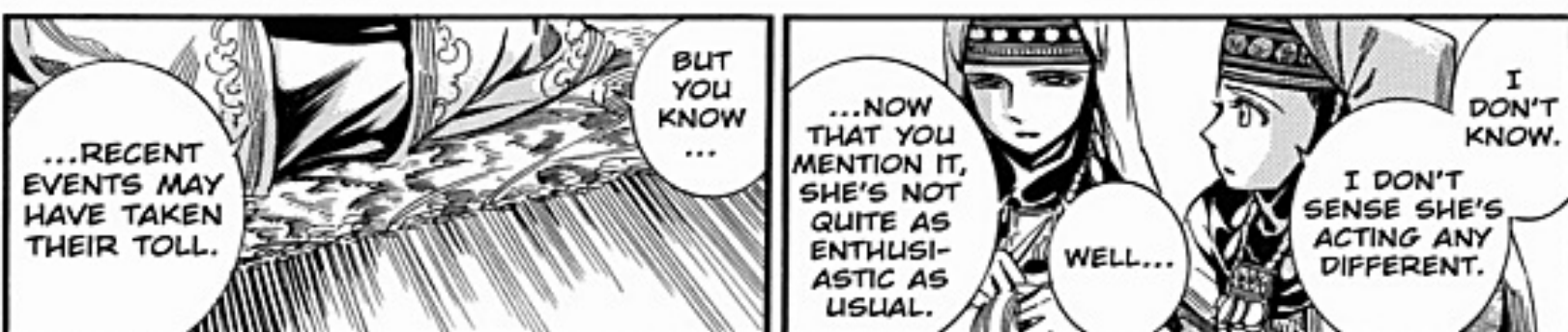


AMIR?



YOU
THINK
SO?

YES,
DON'T YOU
THINK SHE'S
ACTING
A LITTLE
STRANGELY?



...RECENT
EVENTS MAY
HAVE TAKEN
THEIR TOLL.

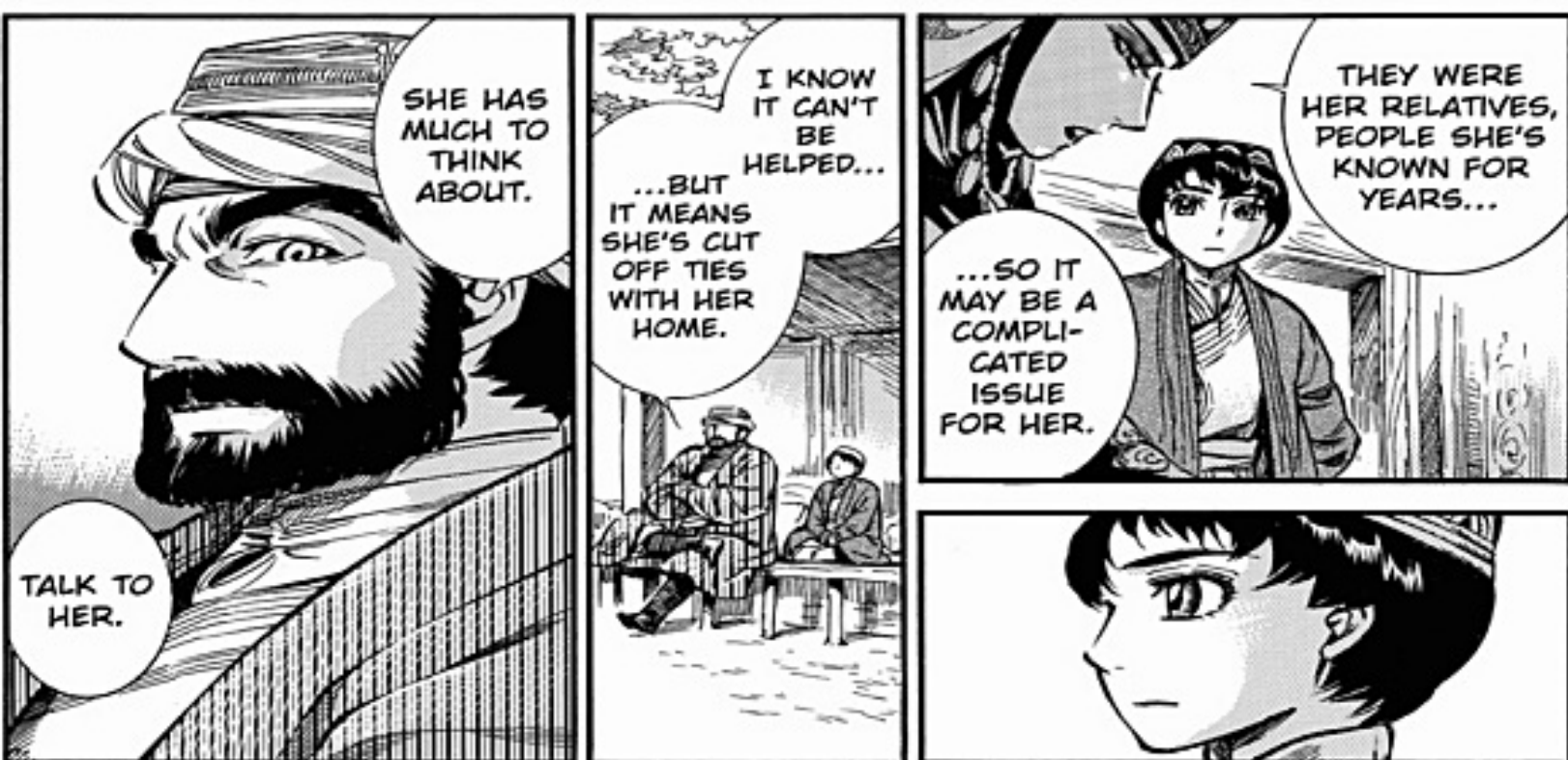
BUT
YOU
KNOW
...

...NOW
THAT YOU
MENTION IT,
SHE'S NOT
QUITE AS
ENTHUSI-
ASTIC AS
USUAL.

WELL...

I
DON'T
KNOW.

I DON'T
SENSE SHE'S
ACTING ANY
DIFFERENT.



SHE HAS
MUCH TO
THINK
ABOUT.

I KNOW
IT CAN'T
BE HELPED...

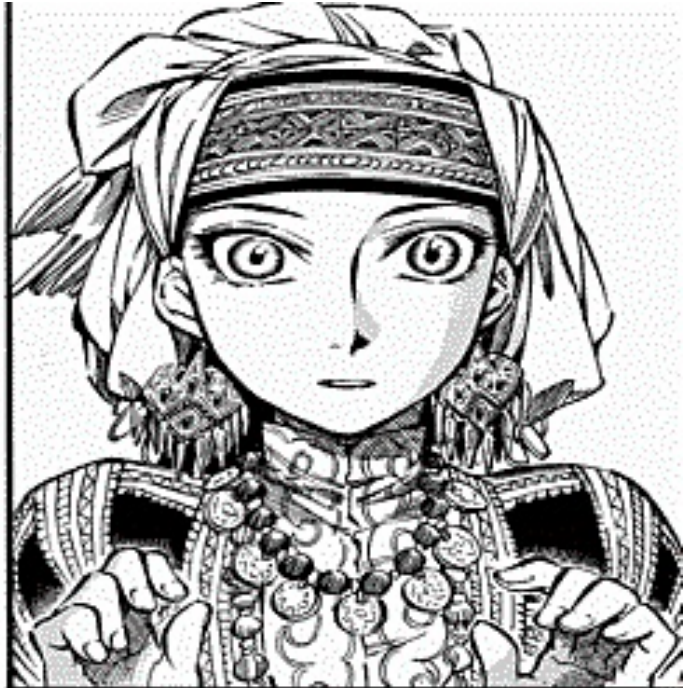
...BUT
IT MEANS
SHE'S CUT
OFF TIES
WITH HER
HOME.

THEY WERE
HER RELATIVES,
PEOPLE SHE'S
KNOWN FOR
YEARS...

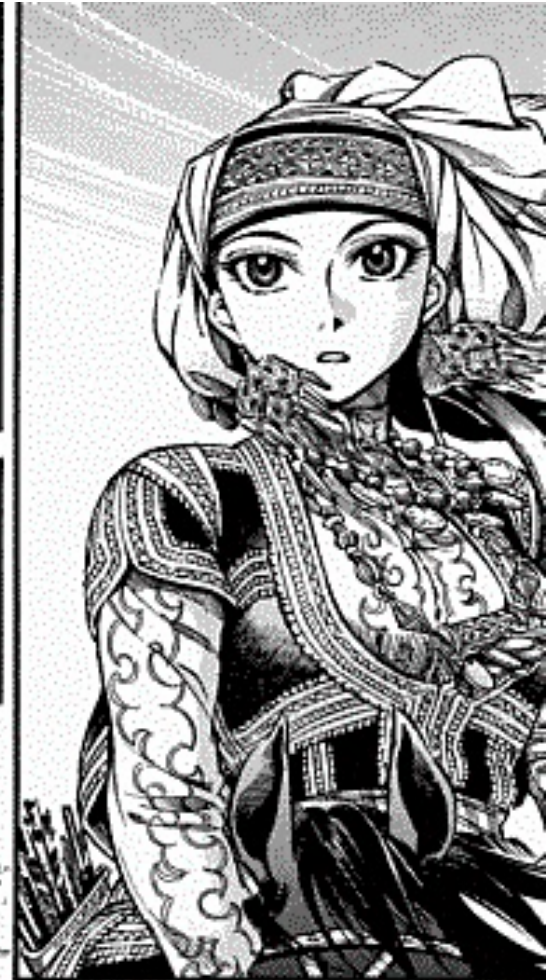
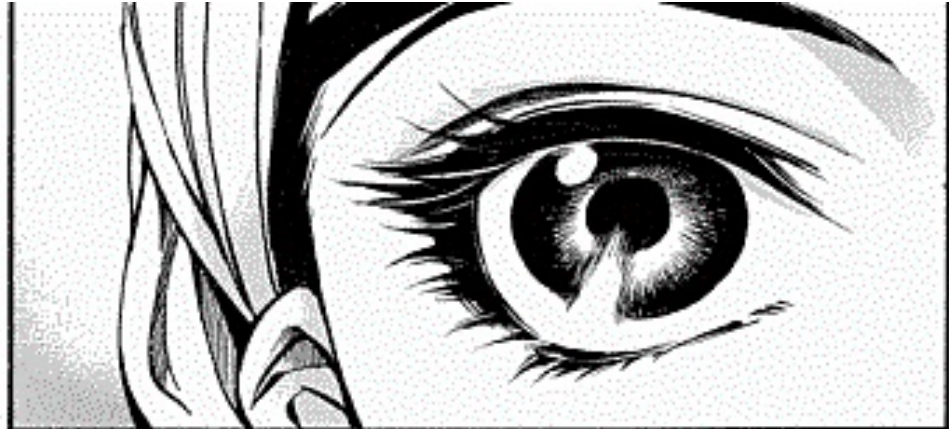
...SO IT
MAY BE A
COMPLI-
CATED
ISSUE
FOR HER.

TALK TO
HER.







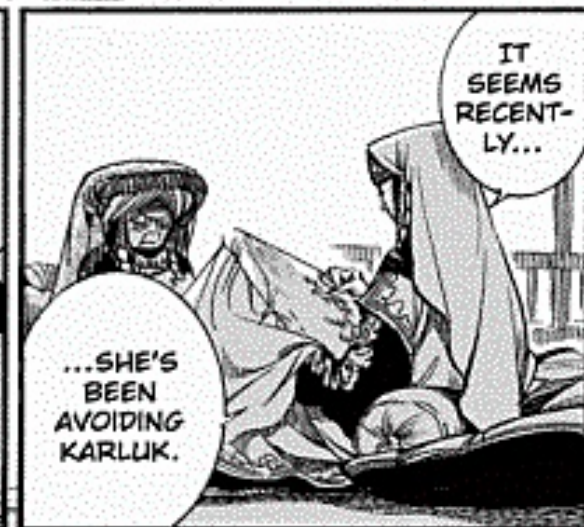


I WONDER
WHAT IS
THE MATTER
WITH AMIR.



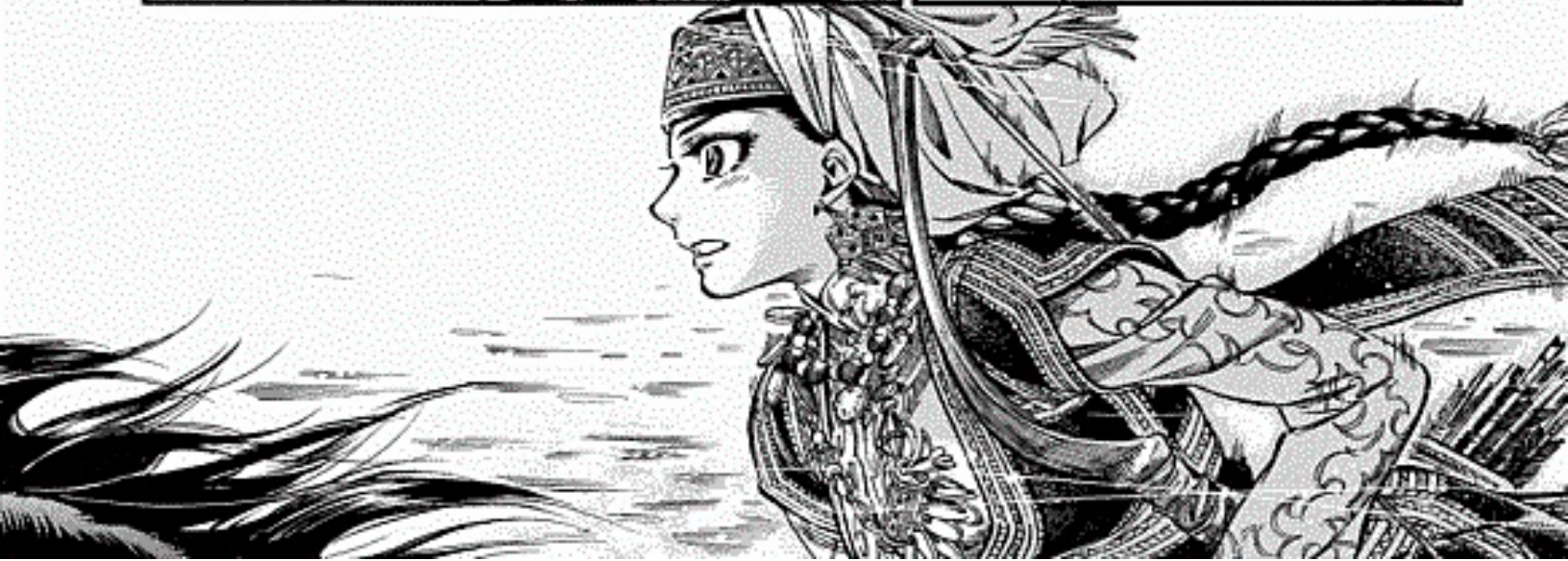
...PERHAPS
THE ATMO-
SPHERE HAS
SOURD...

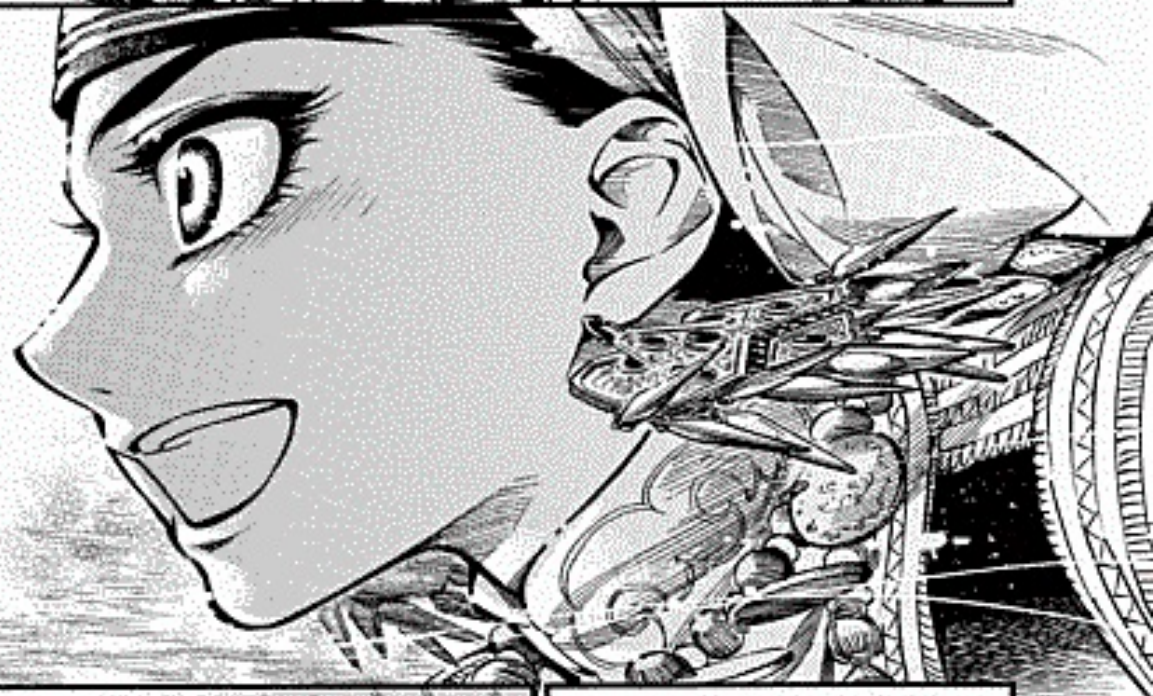
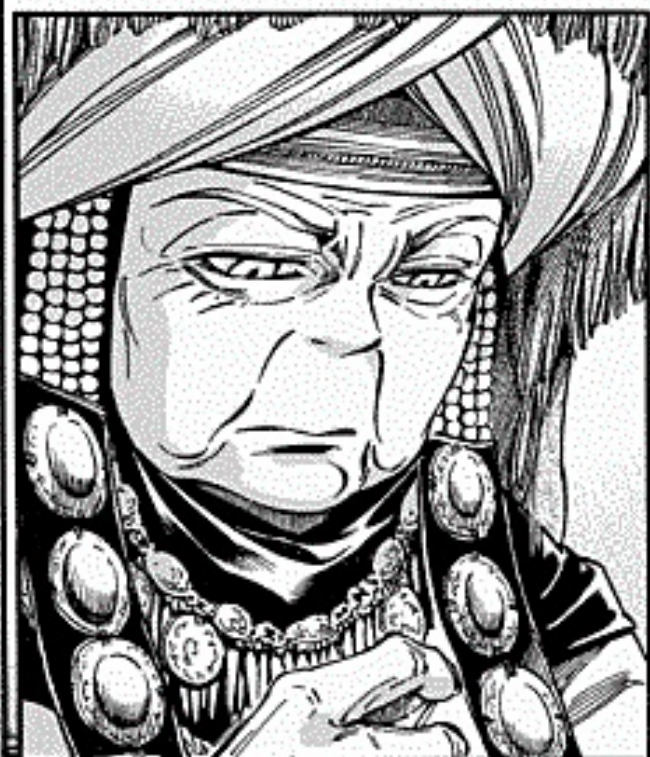
EVEN
IF SHE
HASN'T
TAKEN A
DISLIKING
TO HIM...



IT
SEEMS
RECENT-
LY...

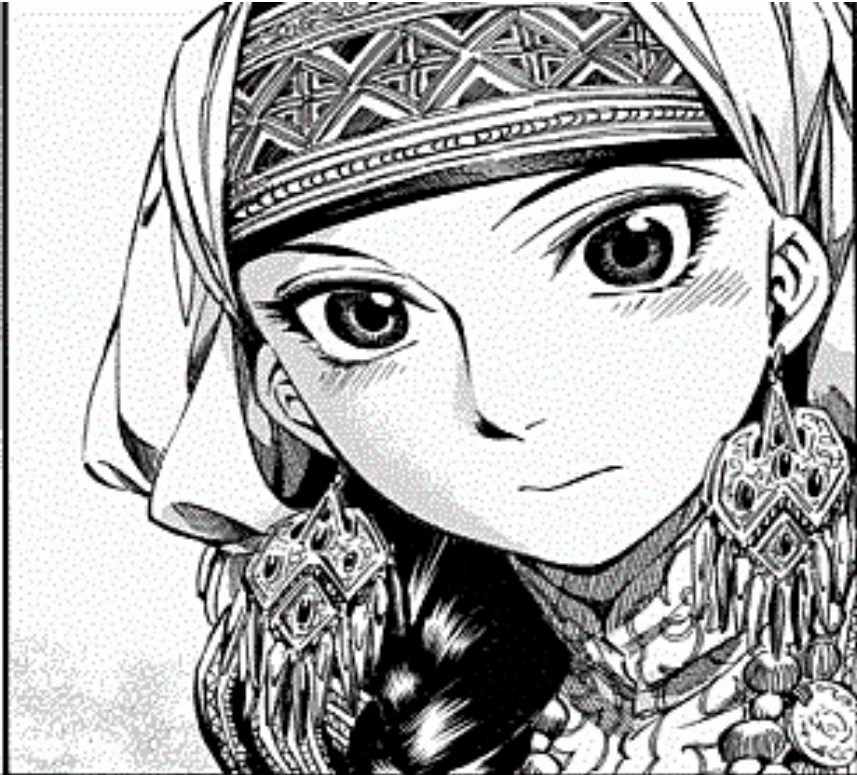
...SHE'S
BEEN
AVOIDING
KARLUK.

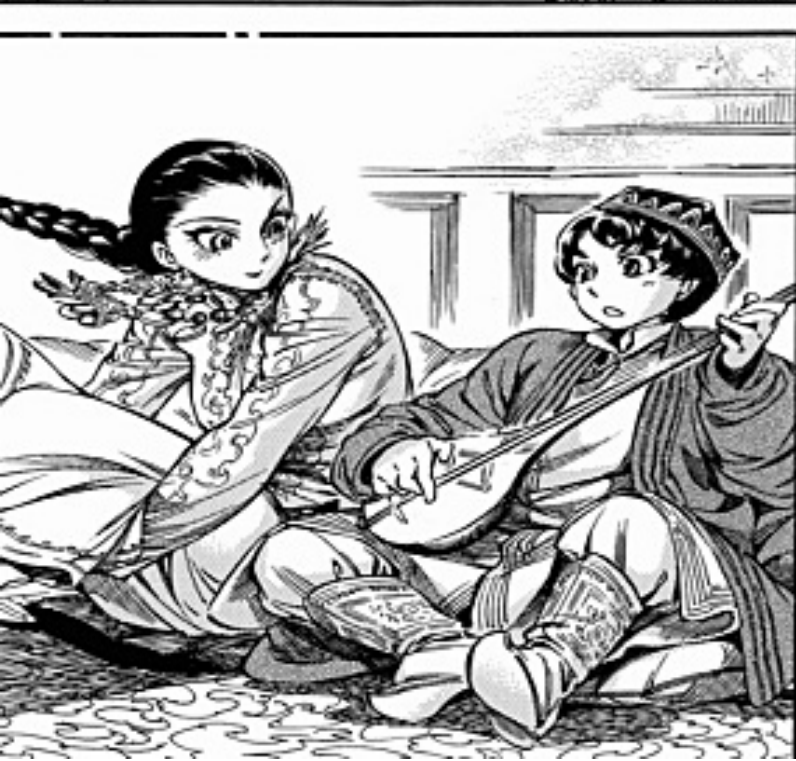




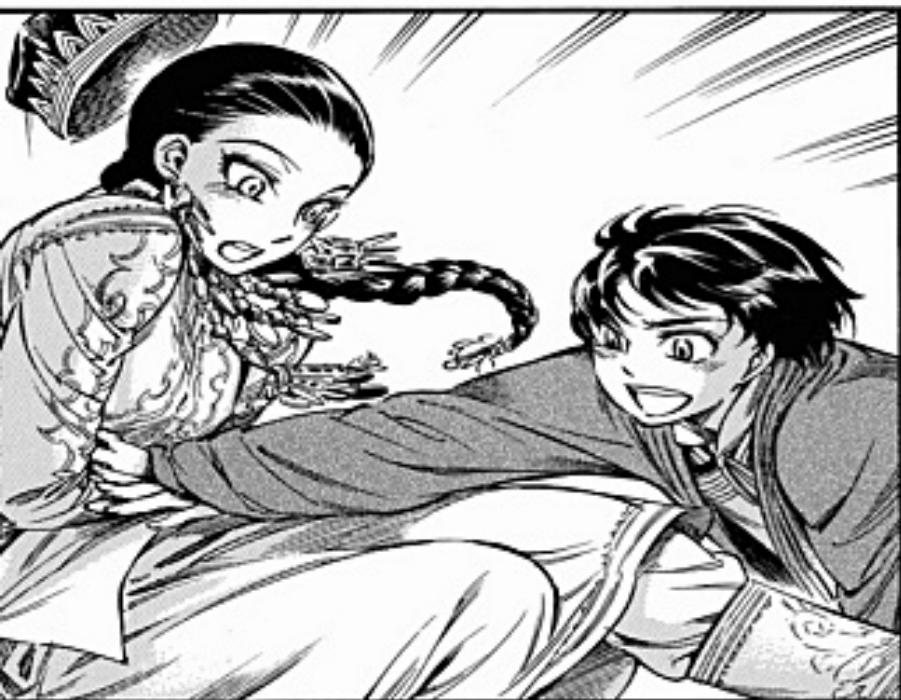


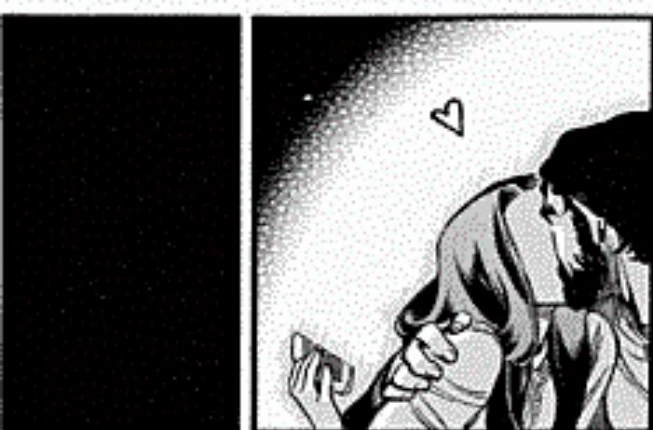
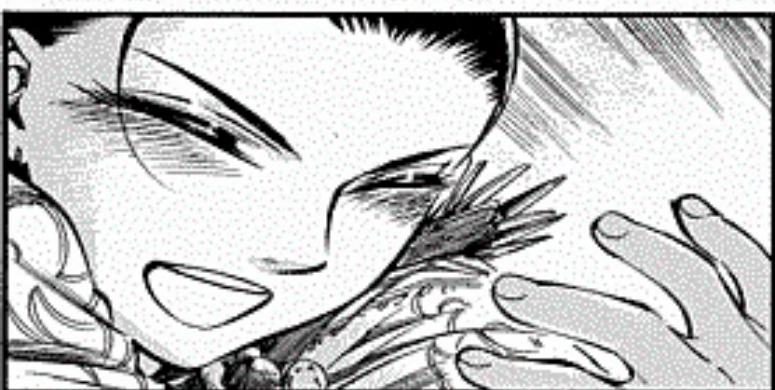












◆ CHAPTER TEN ◆

YOU
HAVE A
VISITOR!

MR.
SMITH!



A VISITOR
FOR ME?

WHAT'S
THAT?



EXCUSE
ME...

...BUT
ARE YOU
MR. SMITH?



IF YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT A
WESTERNER
HERE,
HE'S IT!

AH,
THERE,
THERE!

THAT'S
THE GUY!
THAT'S
THE GUY!

THAT'S
THE MAN,
RIGHT?



AHH...

YES.

I'M
SMITH.

.....



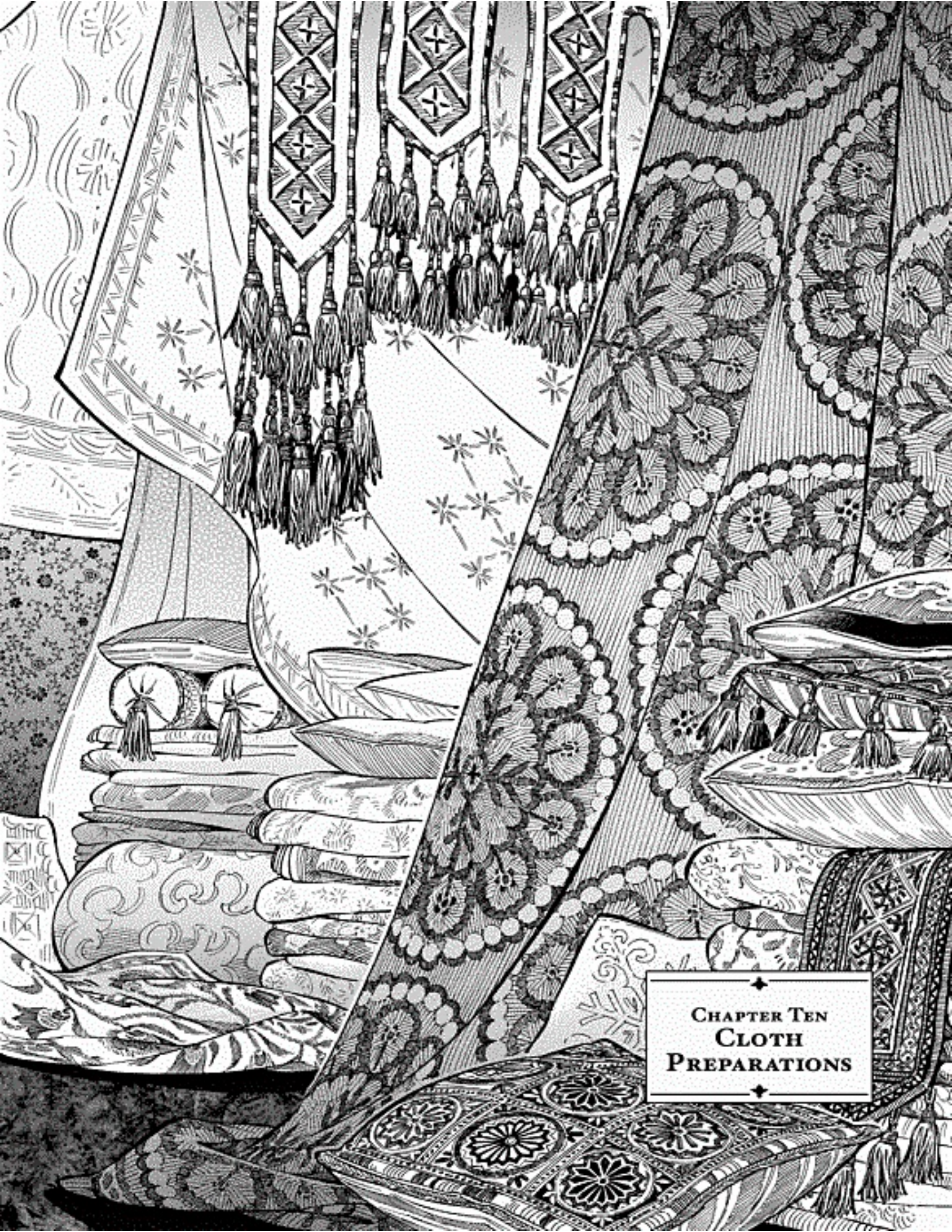












CHAPTER TEN
CLOTH
PREPARATIONS











WE
MUSTN'T CUT
CORNERS
ON THE
DYES.

AND IT
WOULD BE
BEST TO BUY
ALL THE SILK
THREAD WE
WILL NEED AT
ONCE WHEN THE
TIME COMES.



LET'S
SEE...

...GOLD
THREAD,
SILVER
THREAD,
AND
BEADS...

WE DON'T
WORK ON
THE LARGER
THINGS UNTIL
LATER.



I'D LIKE
HER TO GO
WITH MORE SILK
THAN THIS IF
POSSIBLE...



IS
THAT
ALL?

ANYTHING
ELSE?



LOOK.

SHE
SHOWS
MUCH
POTENTIAL.

STILL...AS
LONG AS WE
HAVE THE
MATERIALS,
WE'LL HAVE NO
WORRIES WITH
TILEKE.



AMAZING
FOR HER
AGE.

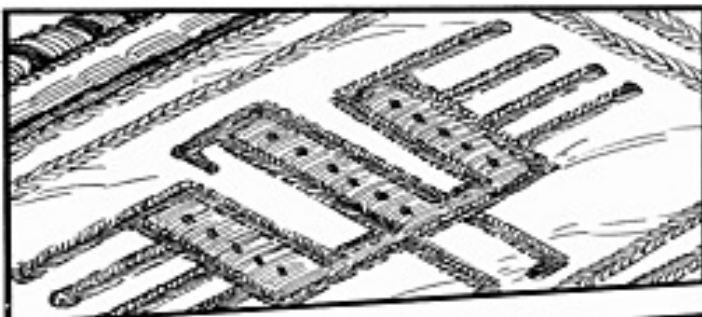
THAT'S
TRUE.

TILEKE
IS VERY
GOOD.



GO
AHEAD.
BUY IT
ALL.

THERE'S
NOTHING TO
BE GAINED
BY BEING
STINGY IN
THIS.



I
SUPPOSE.

THE
STITCH
WORK IS
GOOD,
BUT...

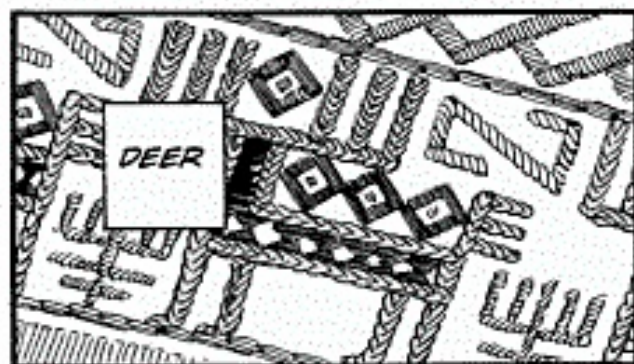
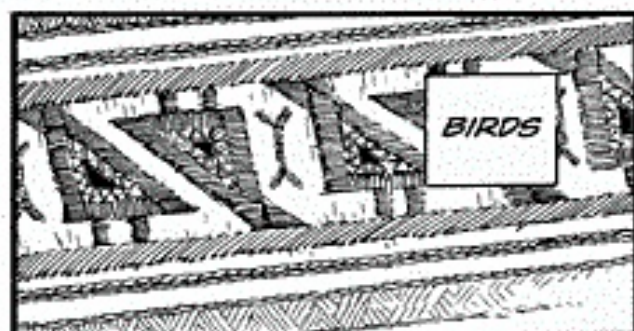
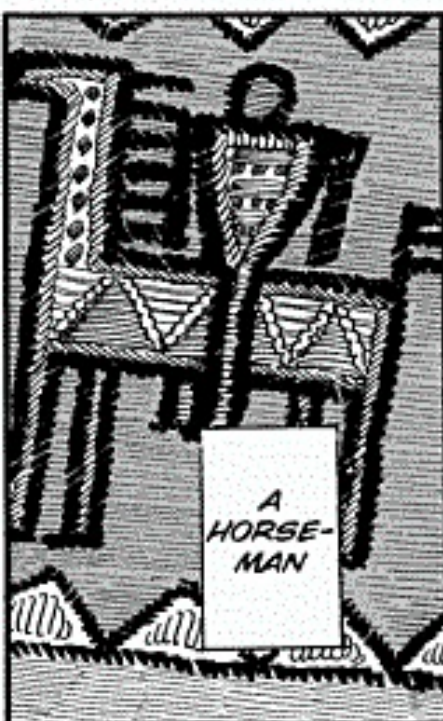


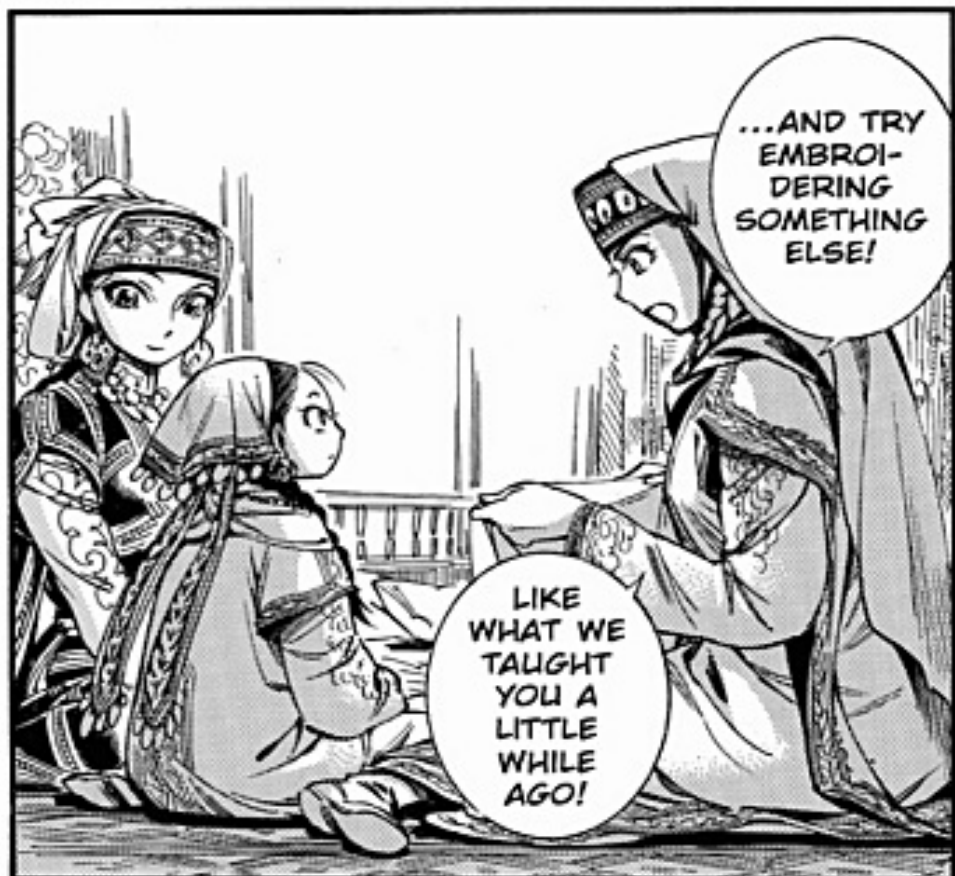
TILEKE, THEY
DON'T ALL HAVE
TO BE HAWKS.
WHY DON'T YOU
DO A FLOWER
OR SOME-
THING...?

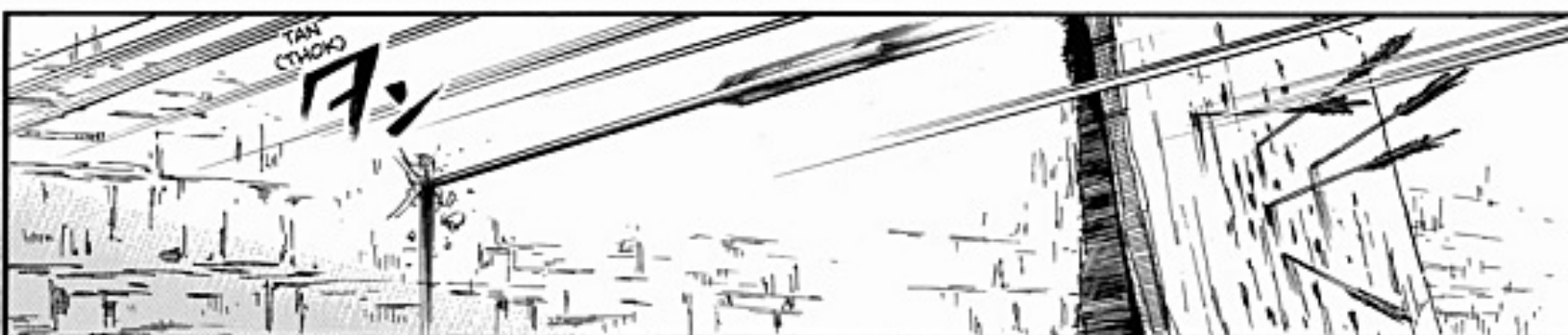
WE'VE
TAUGHT
YOU
DIFFERENT
PATTERNS,
HAVEN'T
WE?

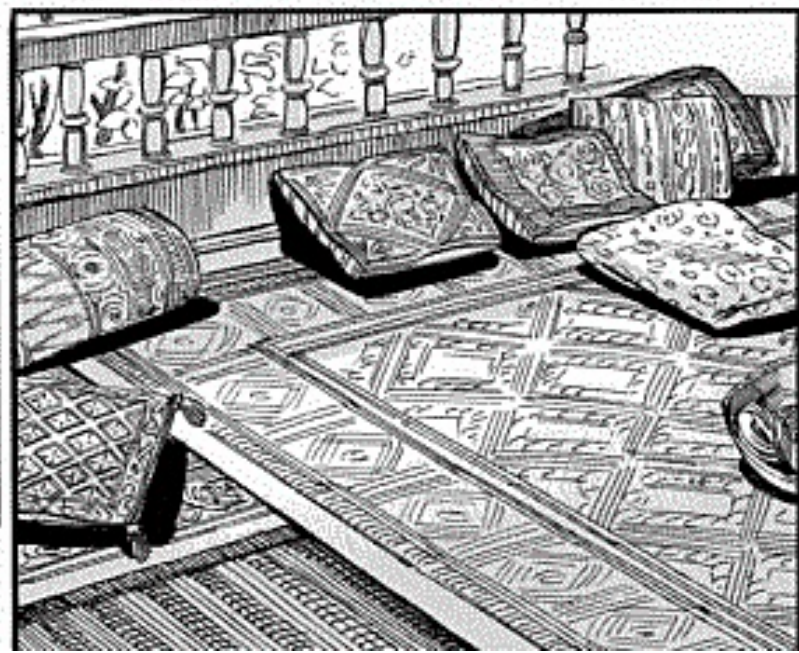
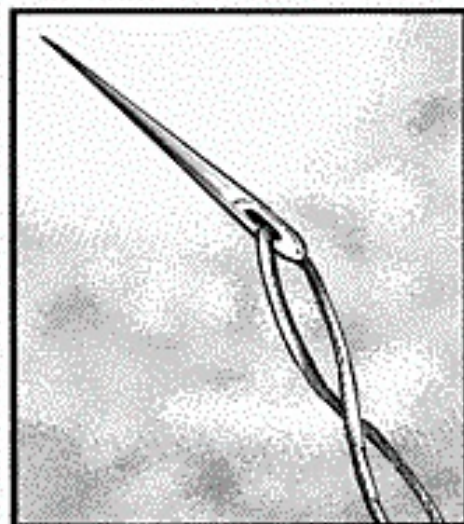


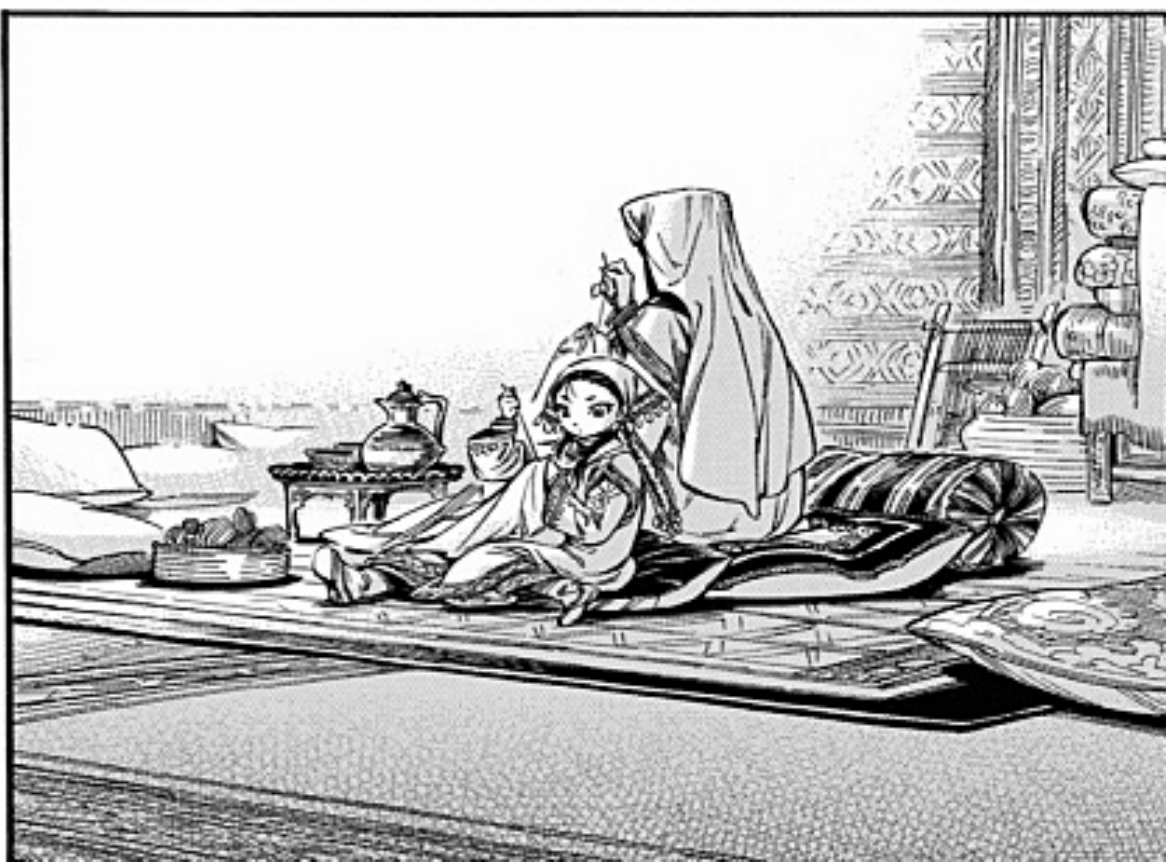
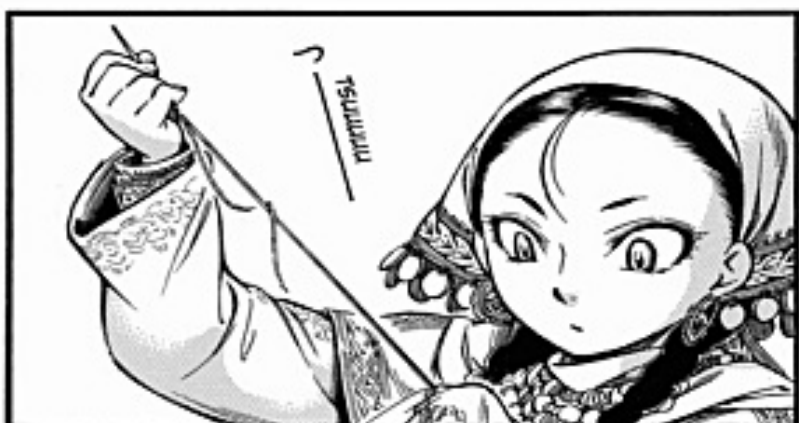
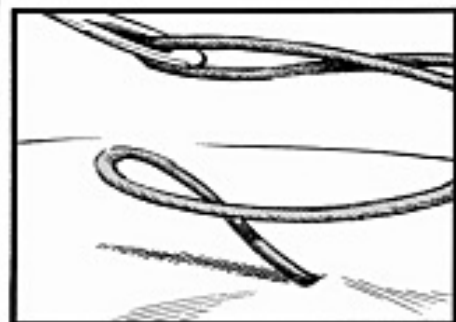
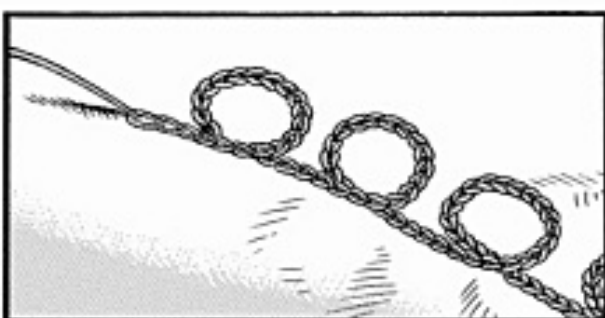
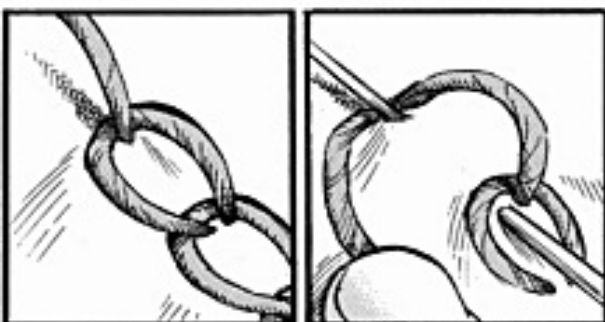
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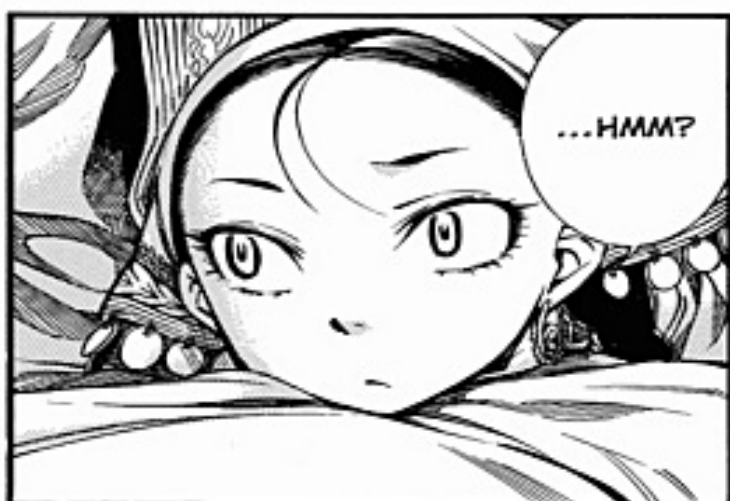


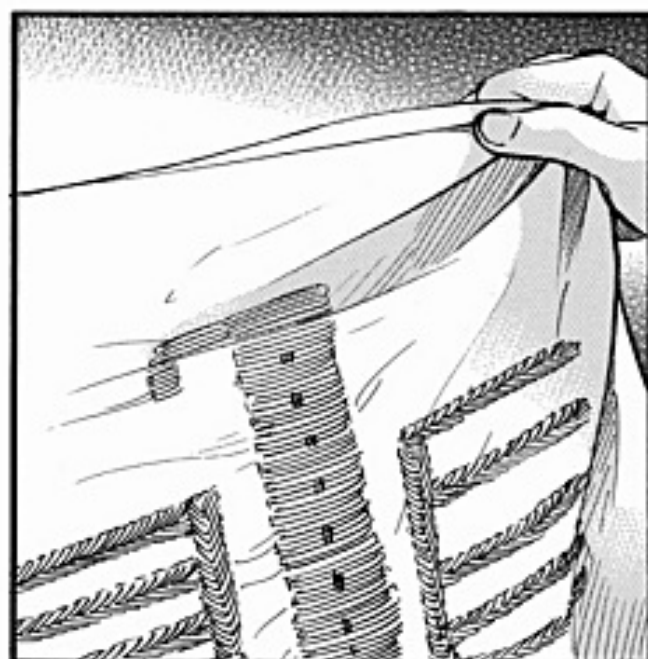


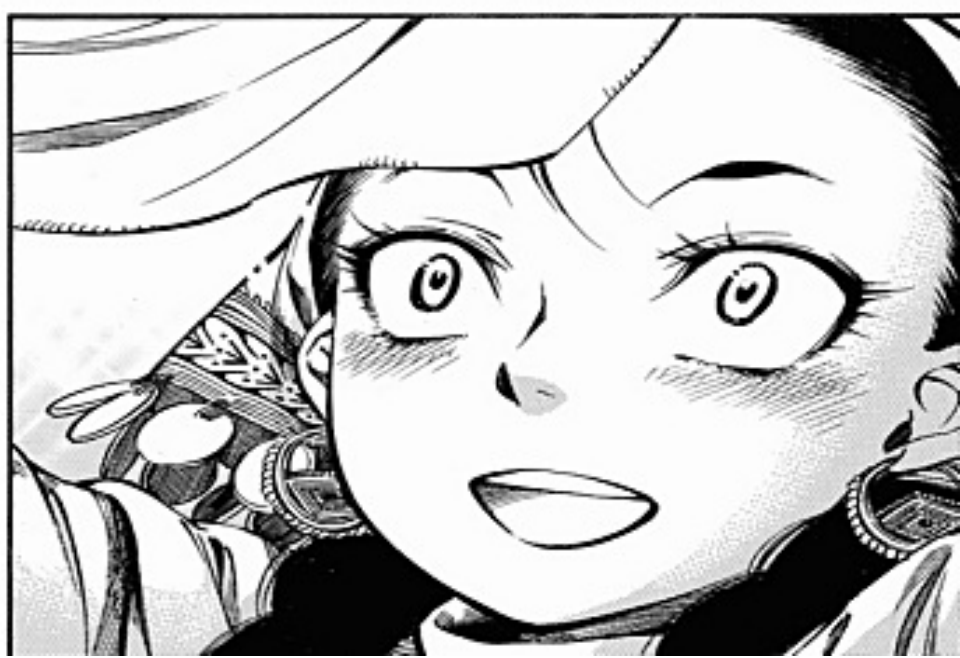




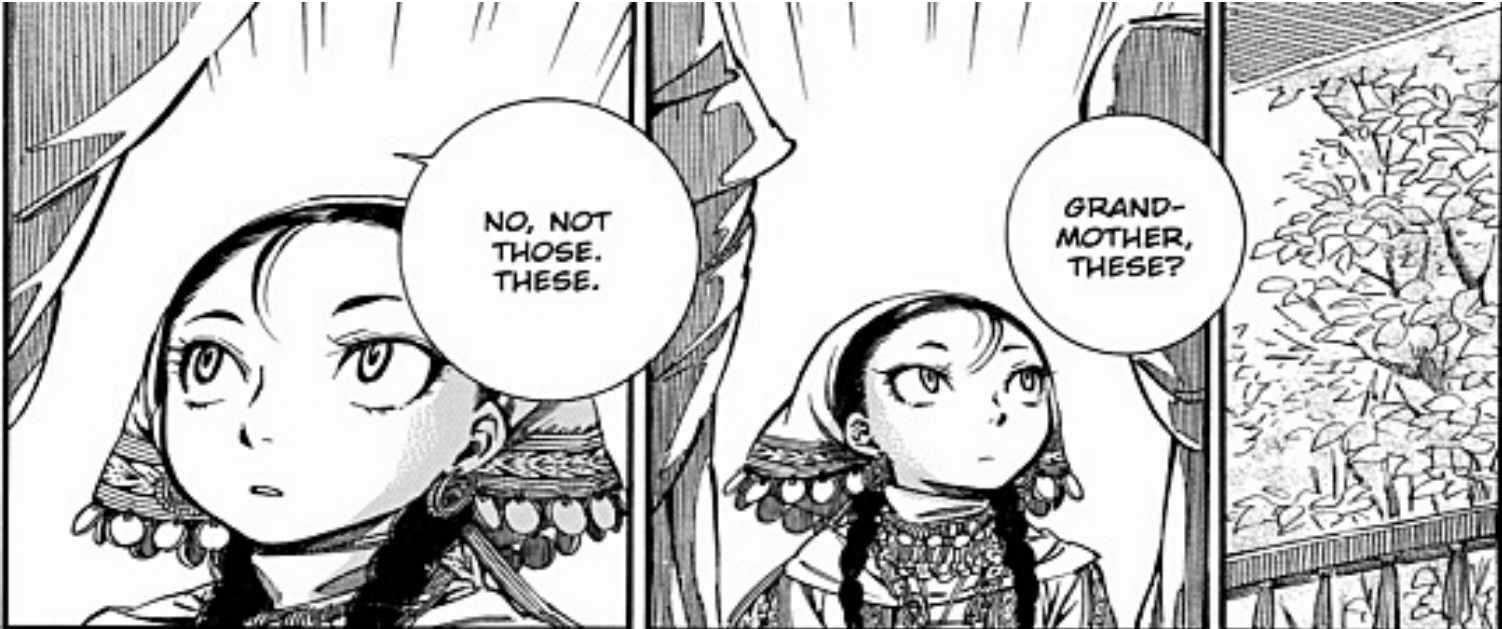




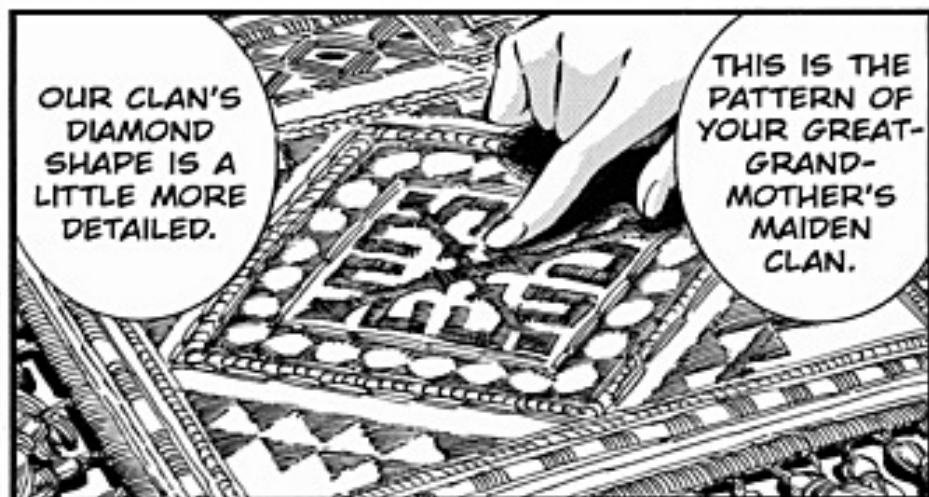
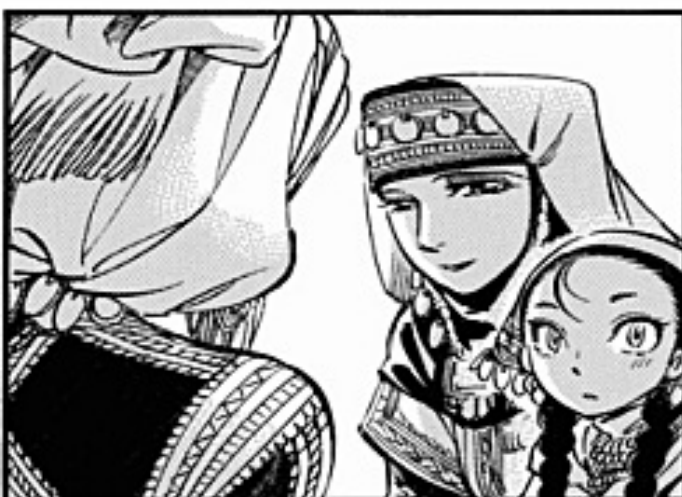


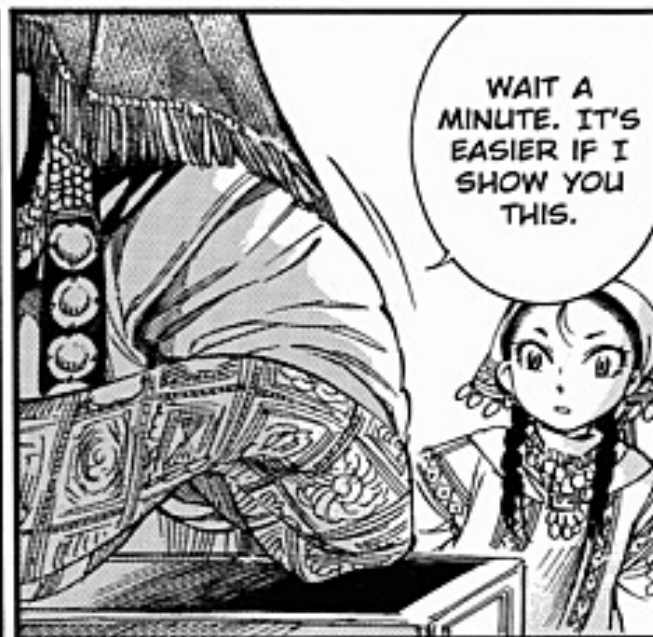
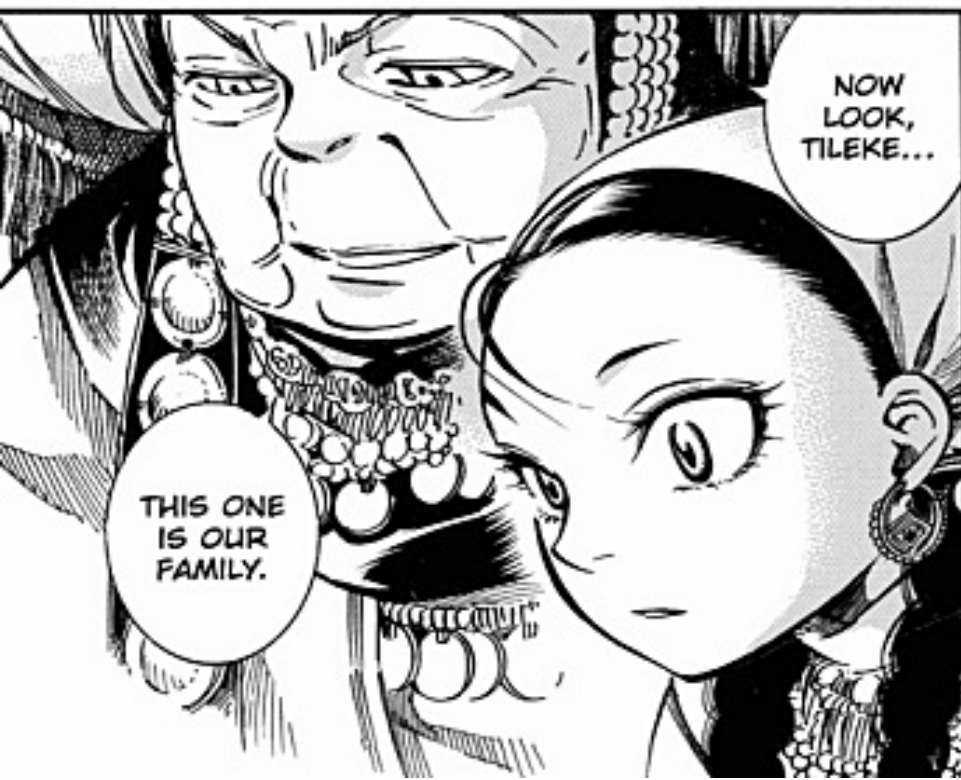














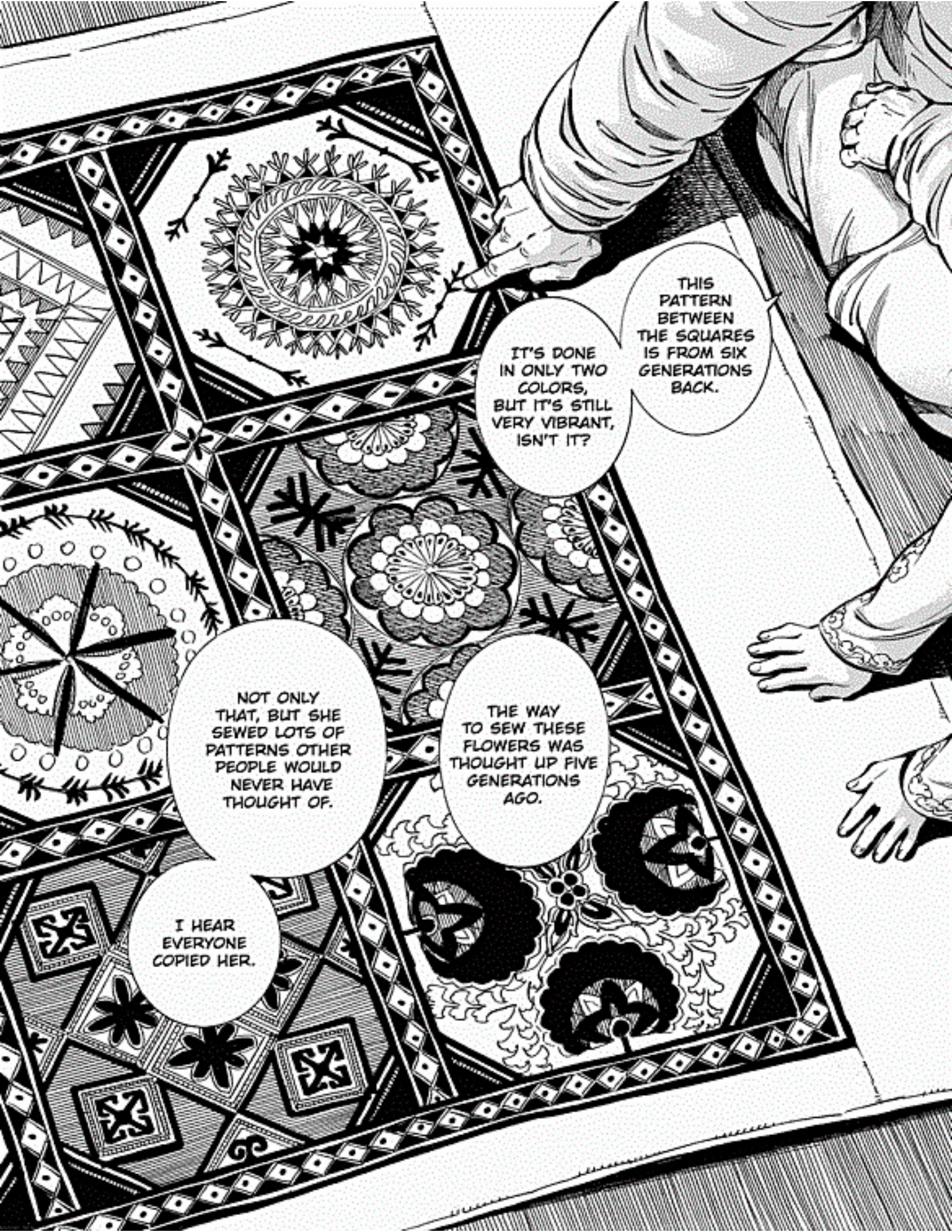
MY GREAT-
GREAT-
GRANDMOTHER
SIMPLY LOVED
THE GRAPE
PATTERN...

THESE
PATTERNS
WERE FROM
MY GREAT-
GRAND-
MOTHER.

...AND
WOULD
ALWAYS
INCLUDE
IT IN HER
CLOTH.

THEY'RE
ALL SO BRIGHT
AND LIVELY.

I HEAR
SHE HERSELF
WAS A FUN
PERSON TO BE
AROUND.



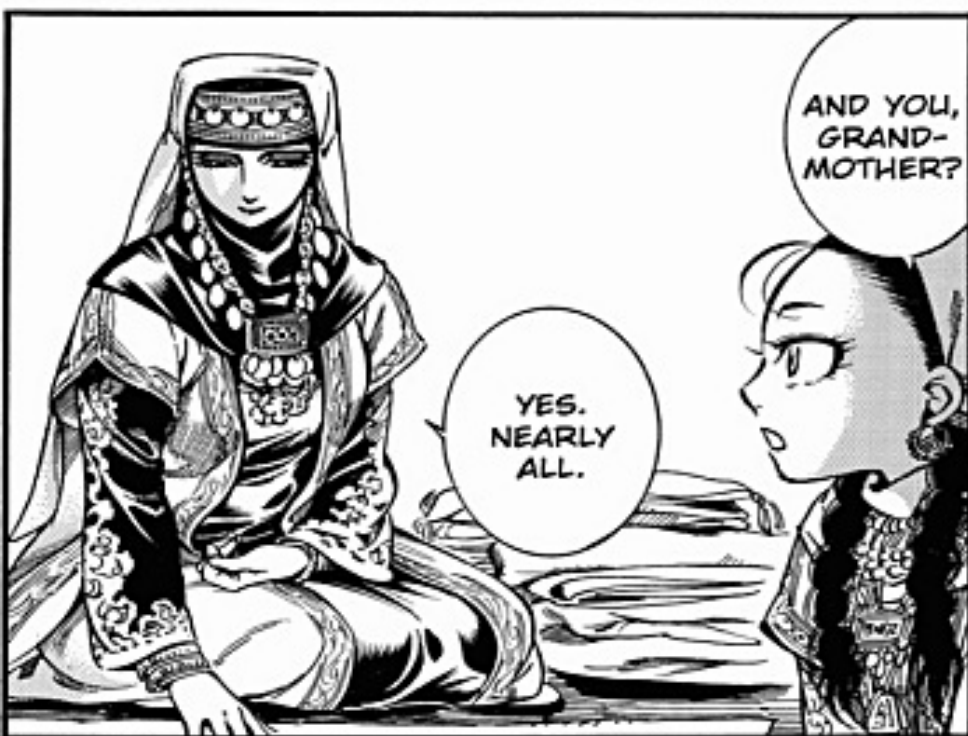
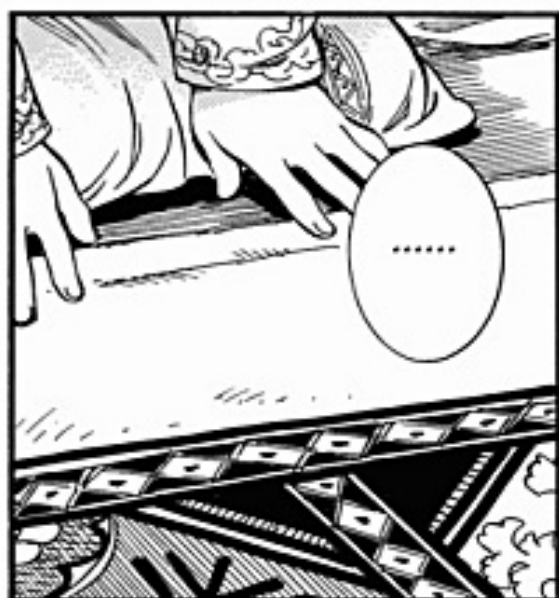
THIS
PATTERN
BETWEEN
THE SQUARES
IS FROM SIX
GENERATIONS
BACK.

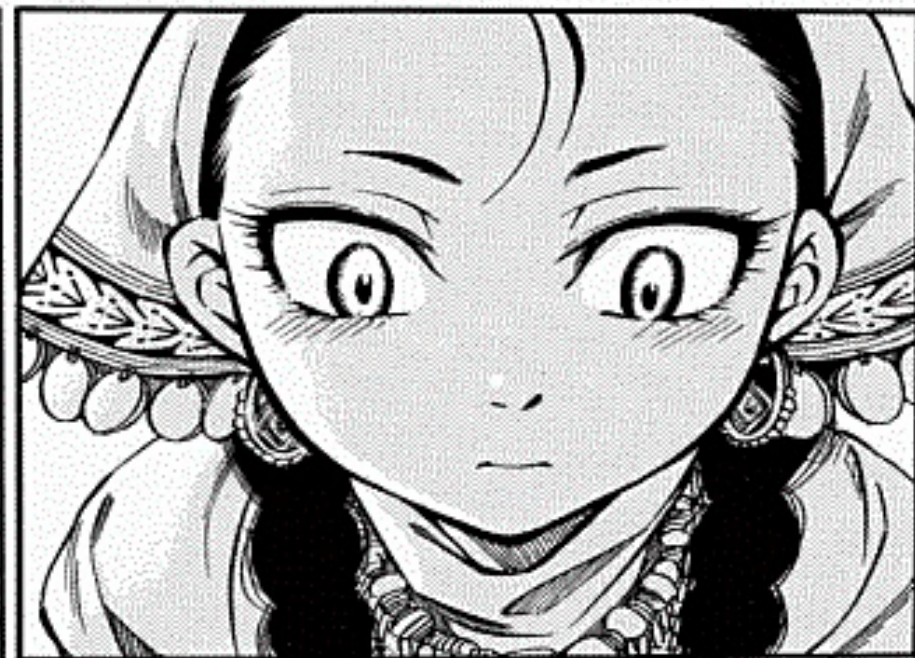
IT'S DONE
IN ONLY TWO
COLORS,
BUT IT'S STILL
VERY VIBRANT,
ISN'T IT?

NOT ONLY
THAT, BUT SHE
SEWED LOTS OF
PATTERNS OTHER
PEOPLE WOULD
NEVER HAVE
THOUGHT OF.

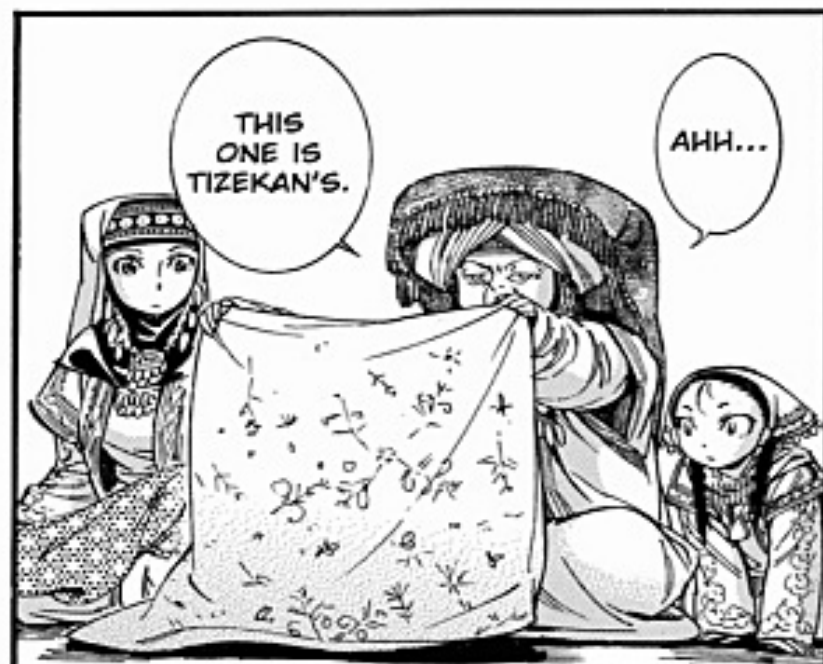
THE WAY
TO SEW THESE
FLOWERS WAS
THOUGHT UP FIVE
GENERATIONS
AGO.

I HEAR
EVERYONE
COPIED HER.













NOW
LOOK
AT IT
CLOSELY
AND
LEARN.







IS A
MR. SMITH
HERE?



...TO STOP
HERE
FOR YOUR
SAKE.

YOU
WERE ON
MY WAY,
SO I WAS
ASKED...



YES?

I AM
HE...



THEN I'M
EVER SO
GRATE-
FUL.

IS THAT
SO?

I WAS
PLANNING
ON COMING
THROUGH
THIS AREA
ANYWAY.

DON'T
MENTION
IT.



AS I AM FROM
ENGLAND TOO,
THE PERSON
PROBABLY
ASSUMED WE
KNEW EACH
OTHER.



WHAT IS
THIS?

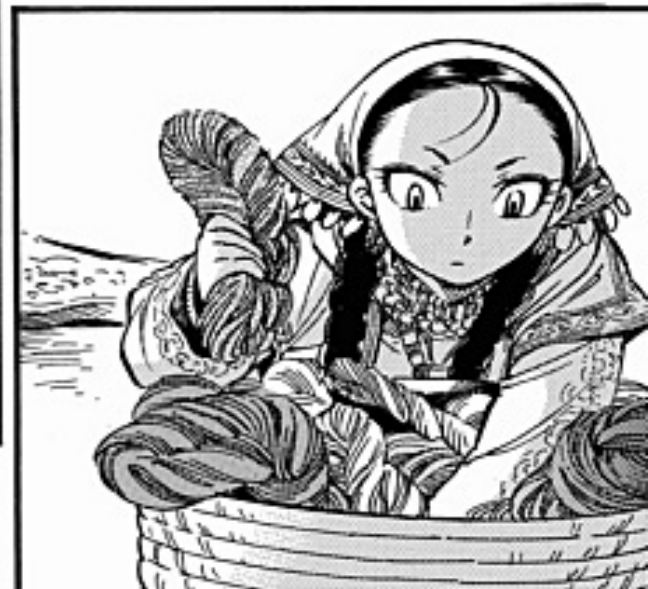
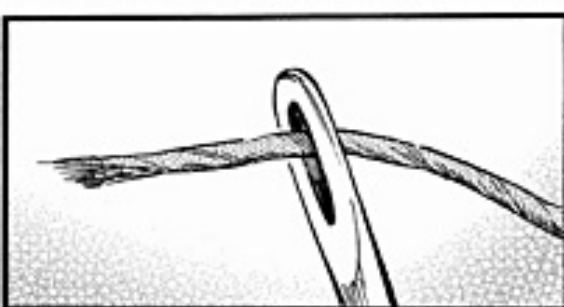
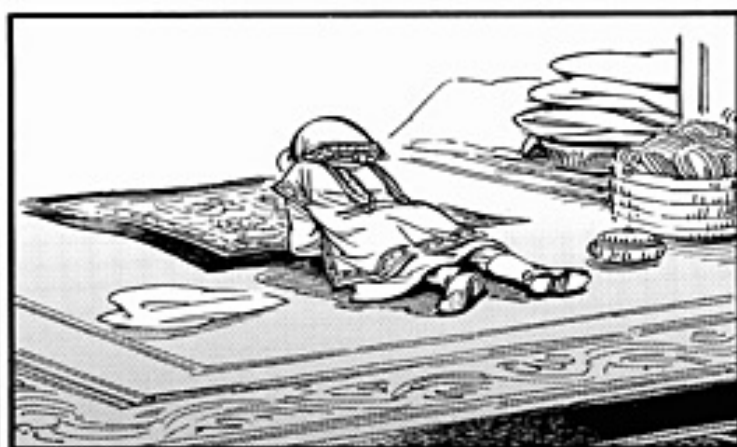
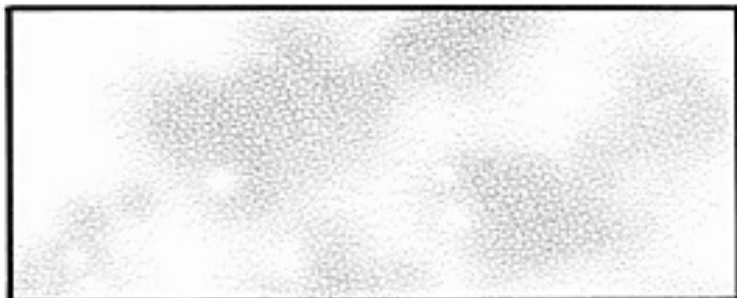
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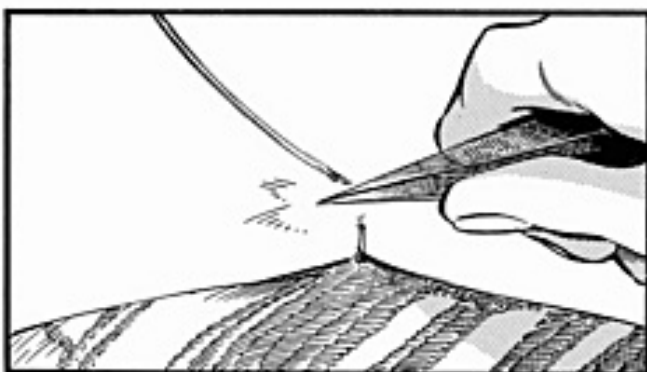
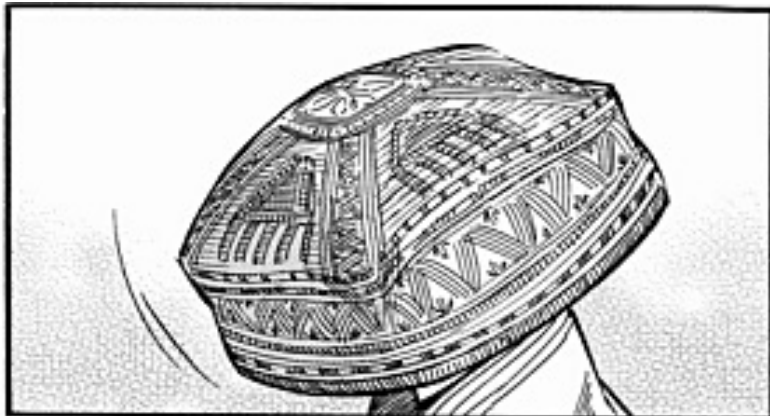
FORGIVE
ME. I DON'T
KNOW
MYSELF.

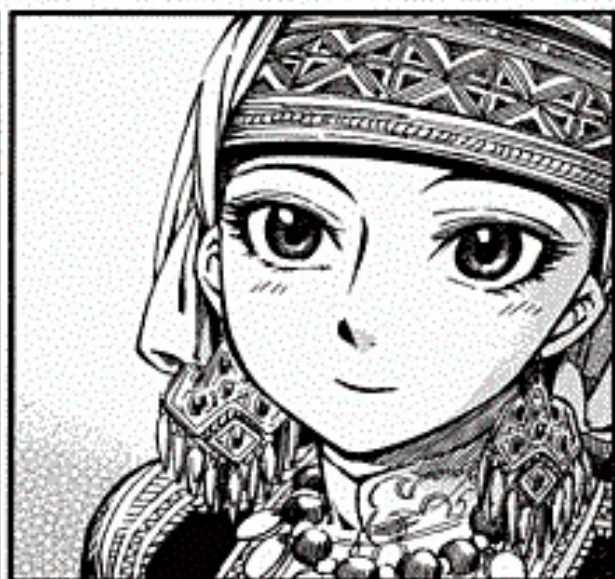
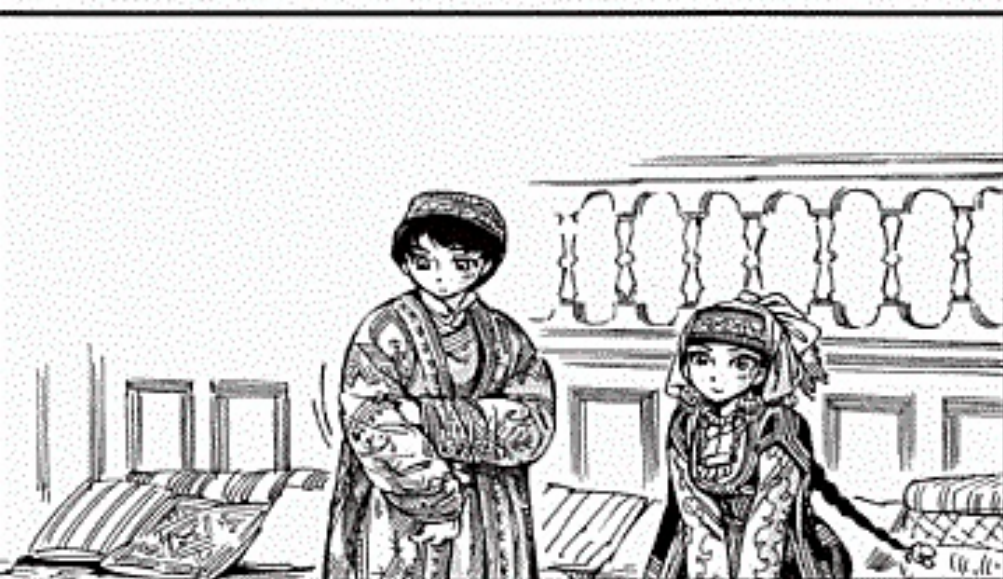
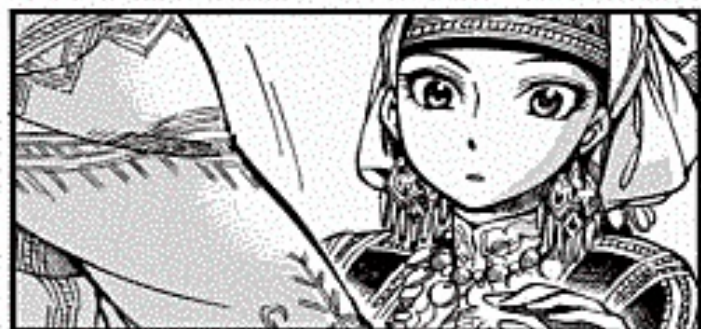
I WAS
SIMPLY
ASKED TO
DELIVER IT.





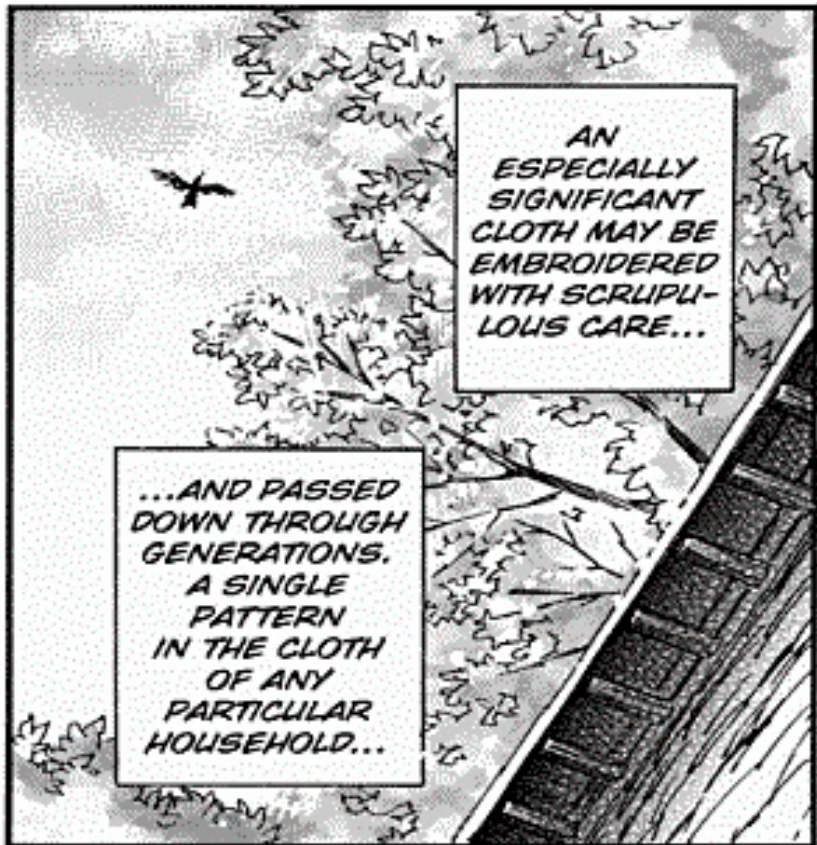






...CAN,
AT TIMES,
POSSESS
A VALUE
GREATER THAN
MONEY.

THE CLOTH
FESTOONED
WITH
ELABORATE
EMBROIDERY...



AN
ESPECIALLY
SIGNIFICANT
CLOTH MAY BE
EMBROIDERED
WITH SCRUPU-
LOUS CARE...

...AND PASSED
DOWN THROUGH
GENERATIONS.
A SINGLE
PATTERN
IN THE CLOTH
OF ANY
PARTICULAR
HOUSEHOLD...



IT MAY
REFLECT THE
MAKER'S
POSITION IN
SOCIETY OR
CLAN
AFFILIATION...

...OR EVEN
TELL TALES
OF THE
MAKER
HERSELF.

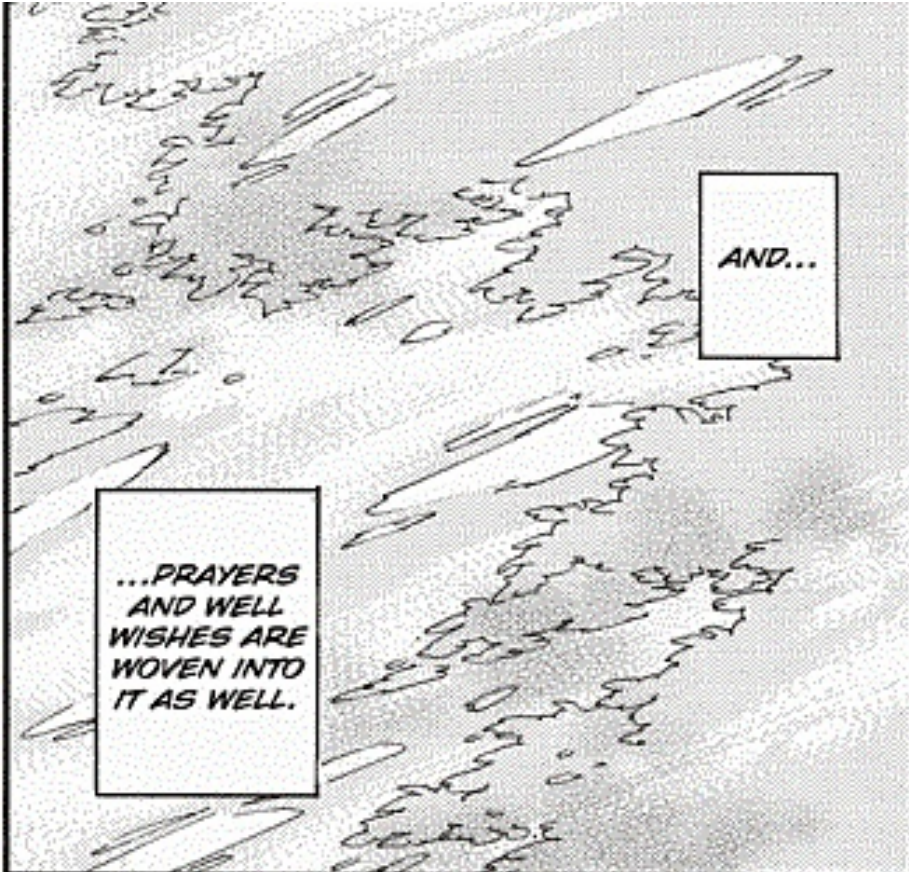


...COULD
REPRESENT
AN
INVESTMENT
OF TIME AND
EFFORT THAT
WOULD MAKE
ONE GASP.



OHH...







...THE
SCENE OF
ESTAB-
LISHED
ROUTINE.

SUCH IS
THE TIME-
HONORED
CUSTOM...



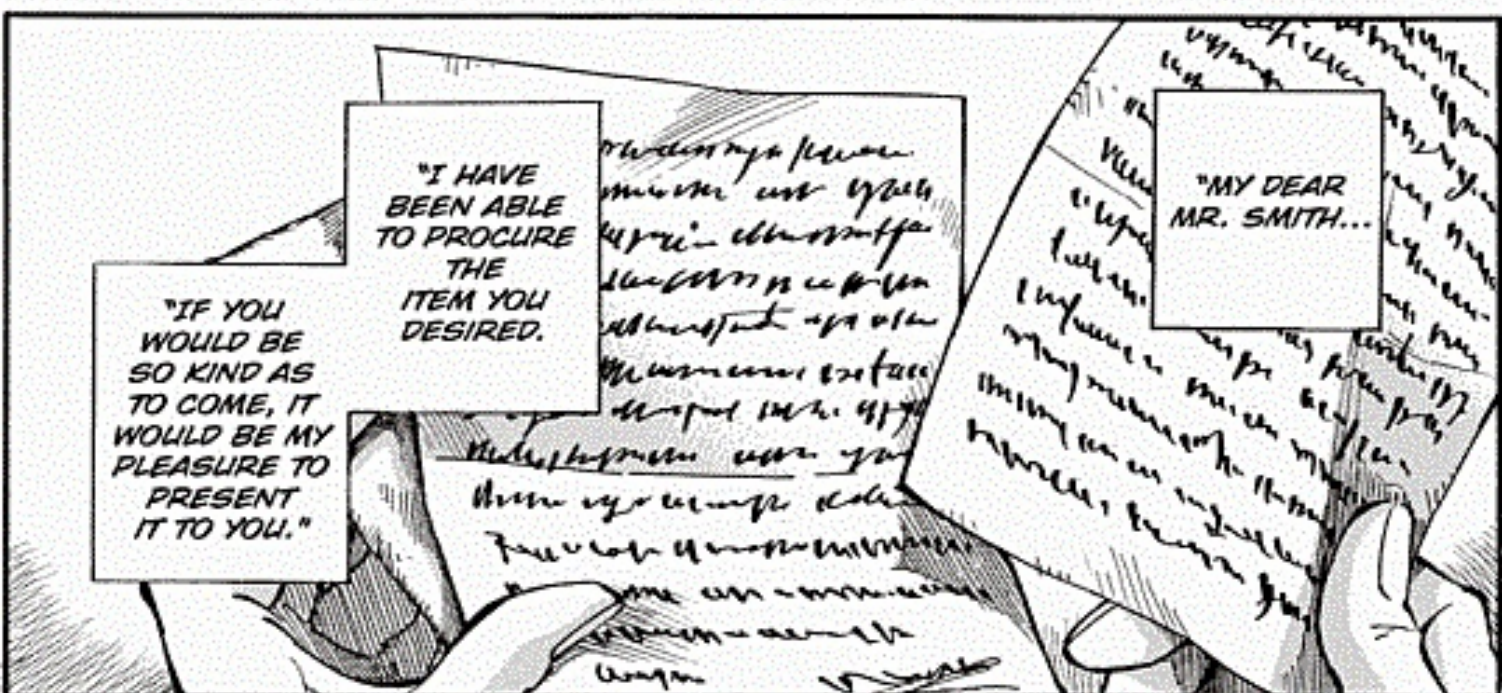
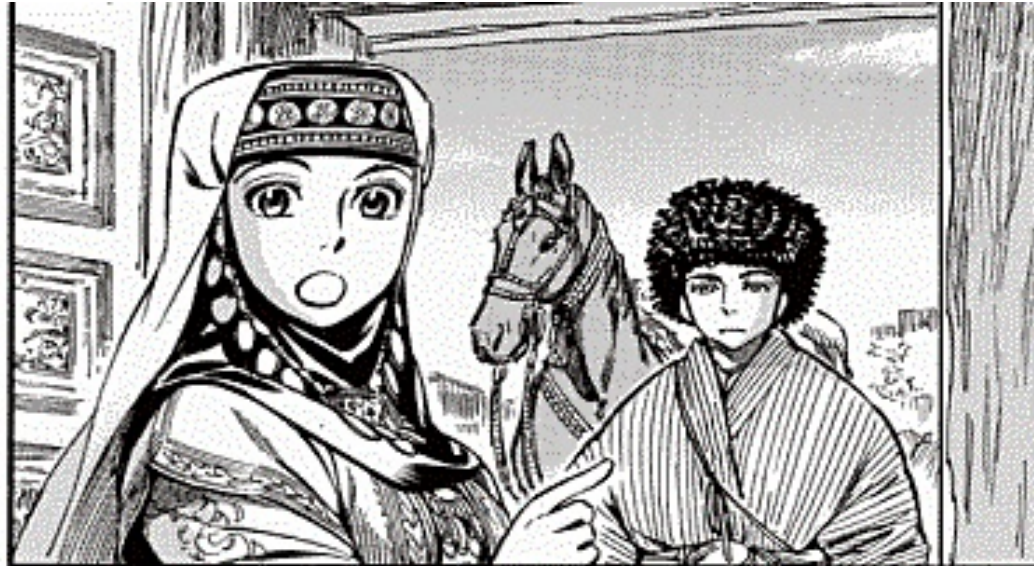
LOST IN
FRIENDLY
CONVERSA-
TION, THEY
DIP THEIR
NEEDLES
IN AND
OUT...

...AND
SPIN THEIR
THREAD IN
INDUSTRI-
OUS OCCU-
PATION.



AND THIS,
IT IS THEIR
VERY LIFE.





CHAPTER ELEVEN
DEPARTURE





WELL,
THESE ARE
THE MOST
IMPORTANT
ITEMS.



IS
HE DONE
PACKING?

ALMOST,
I THINK.



WE WOULD
HAVE LOVED
TO HAVE YOU
FOR LONGER.

BUT IT'S
TOO BAD.



...AND,
IN THE
PROCESS,
ACQUIRED
AN ITEM I
WANTED
THAT I
WOULD LIKE
TO RETRIEVE.

IT
SEEMS
THEY
SPOKE
ON MY
BEHALF TO
THE CLAN
CHIEFTAIN
THERE...



YES,
PERHAPS.

I'D
CERTAINLY
LIKE TO COME
BACK AND
VISIT BEFORE
RETURNING
TO ENGLAND.

YOU'LL
BE BACK?



I MUST
CONFESS
THAT I HAD
COMPLETELY
FORGOTTEN.

I JUST
RECENTLY
RECEIVED A
MESSAGE FROM
THE PLACE I HAD
INTENDED TO
GO TO ALL
ALONG.



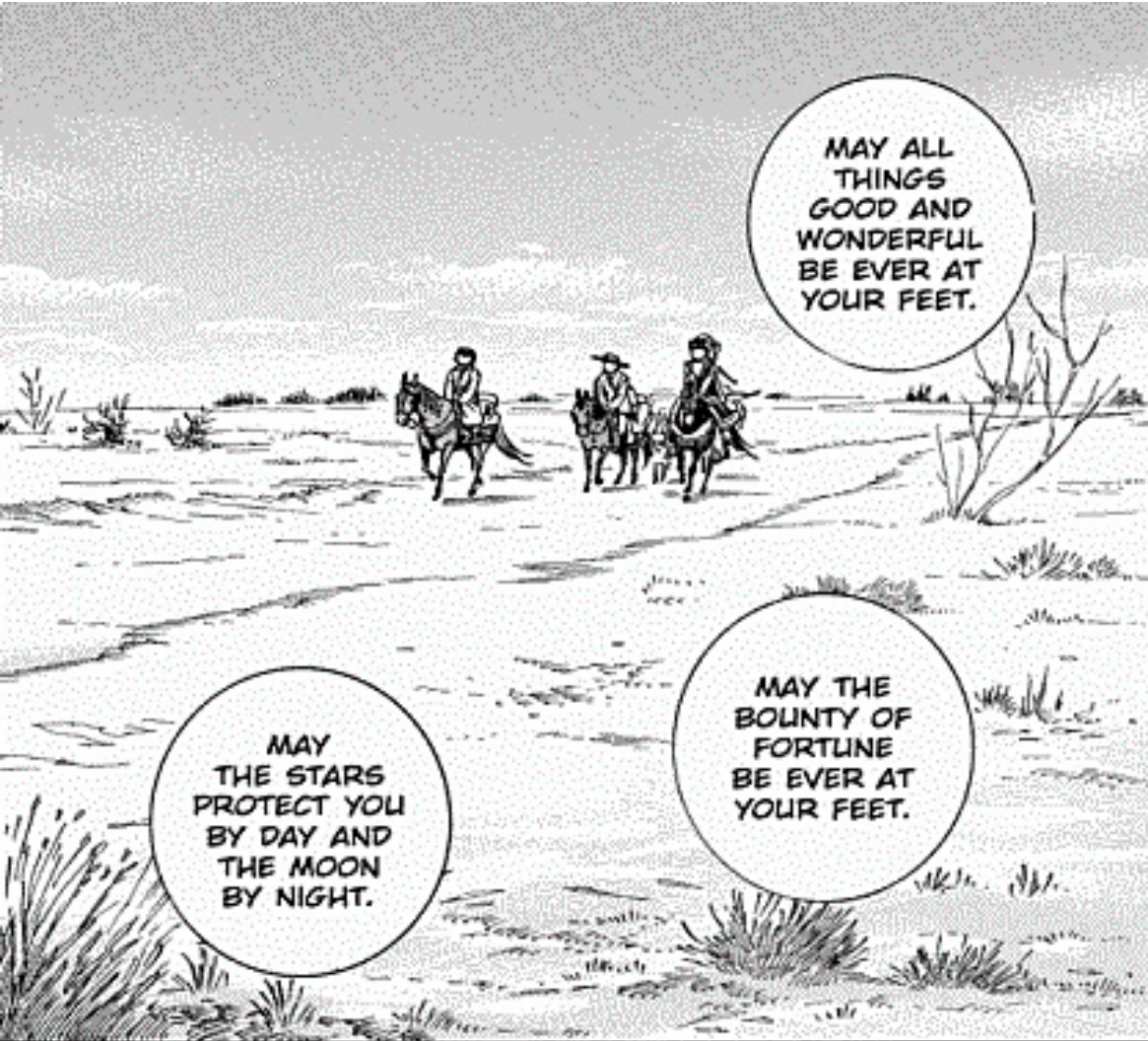












MAY ALL
THINGS
GOOD AND
WONDERFUL
BE EVER AT
YOUR FEET.

IF WE ARE
EVER TO
MEET ONCE
MORE...

...SHALL
WE SING
TOGETHER
AND TELL
OUR
TALES?

MAY
THE STARS
PROTECT YOU
BY DAY AND
THE MOON
BY NIGHT.

MAY THE
BOUNTY OF
FORTUNE
BE EVER AT
YOUR FEET.



USING
"MOON."

OKAY,
YOUR
TURN...

...MR.
SMITH.



...BE A
WONDER-
FUL
POEM.

I KNEW
IT
WOULD...



SONG...

THAT'S
EVEN MORE
PROBLEM-
ATIC...



NO...

POEMS
ARE A
WEAK
POINT OF
MINE.

THEN A
SONG
WILL
DO.



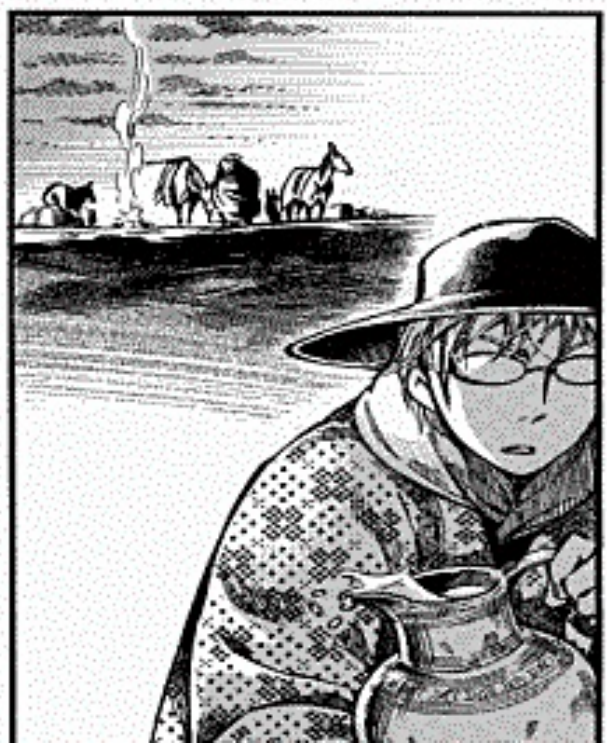
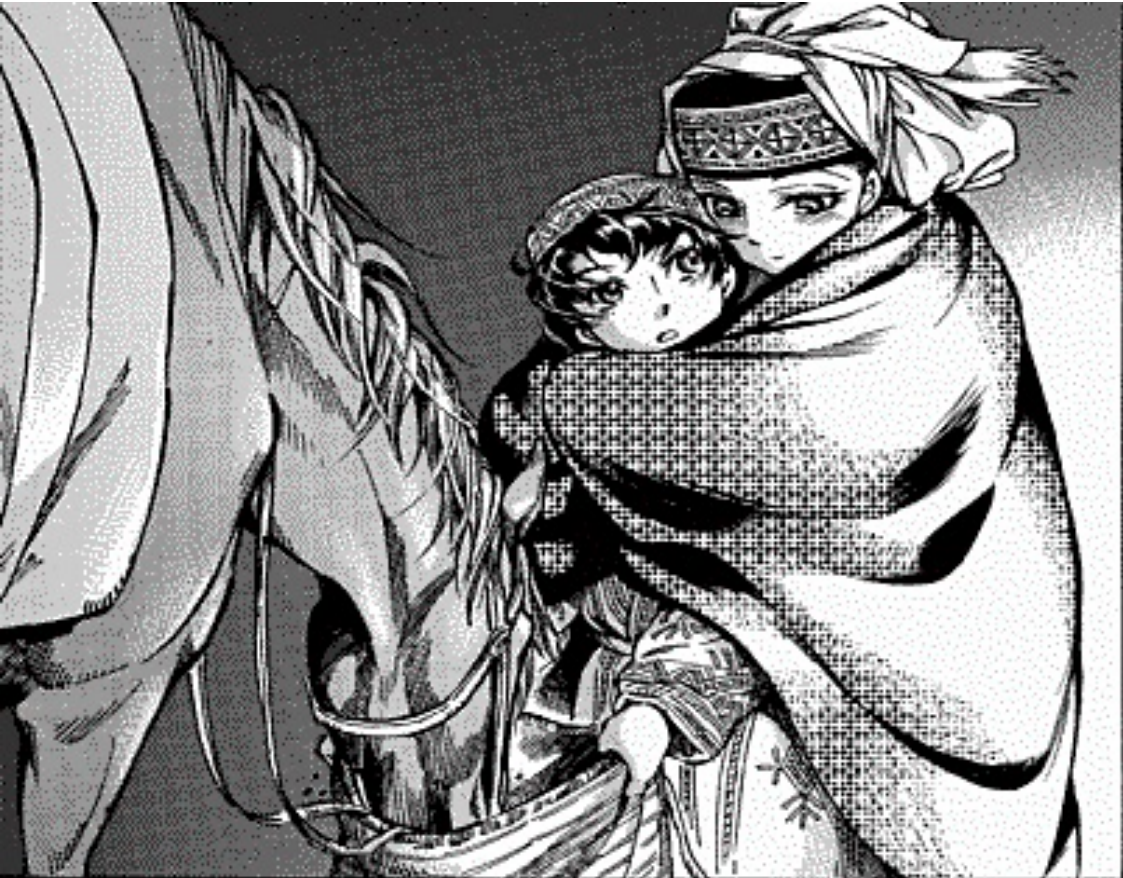
WHAT?

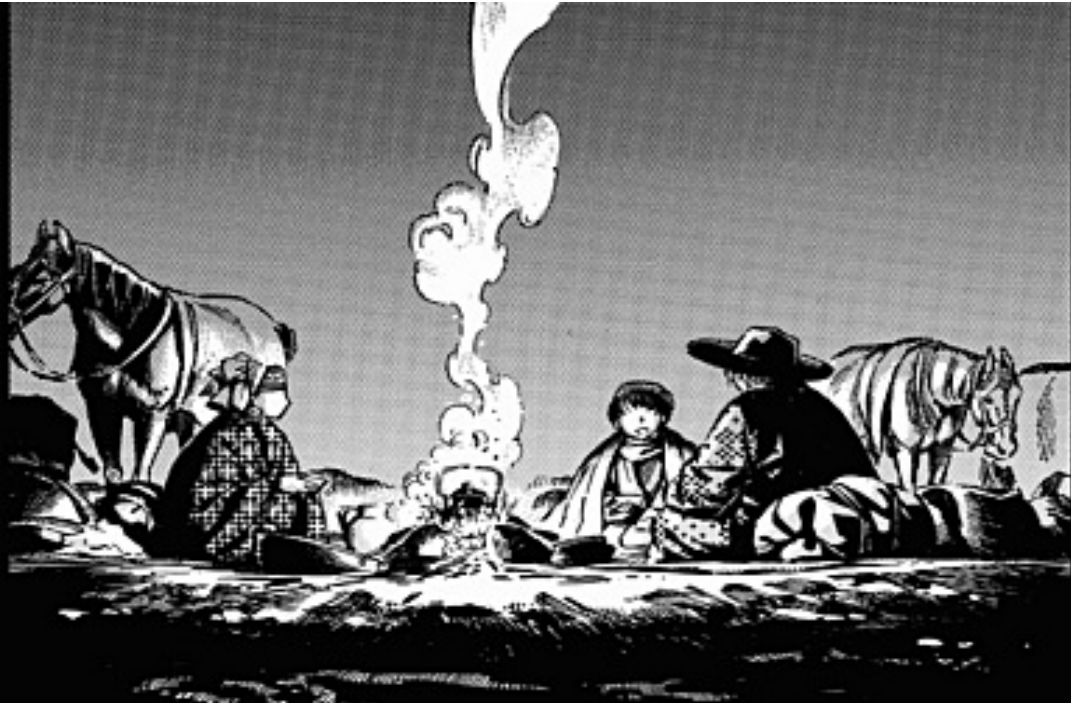
YOU
MEAN
ME?



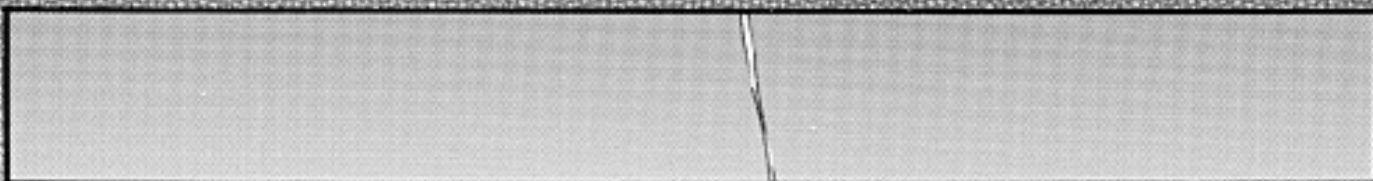
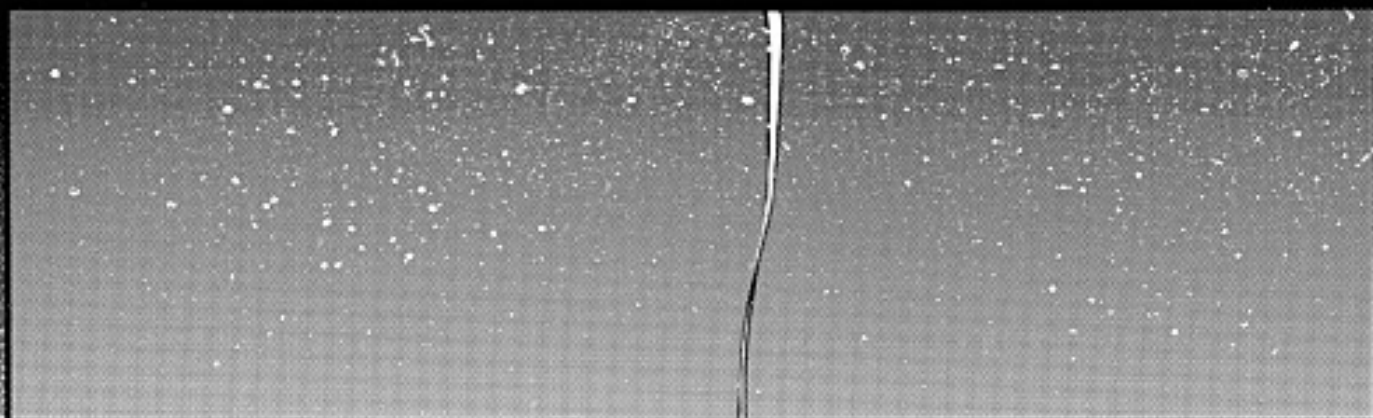


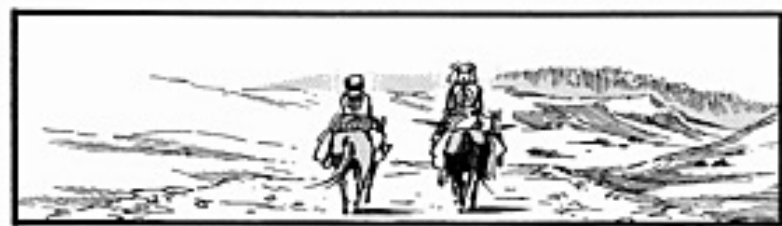
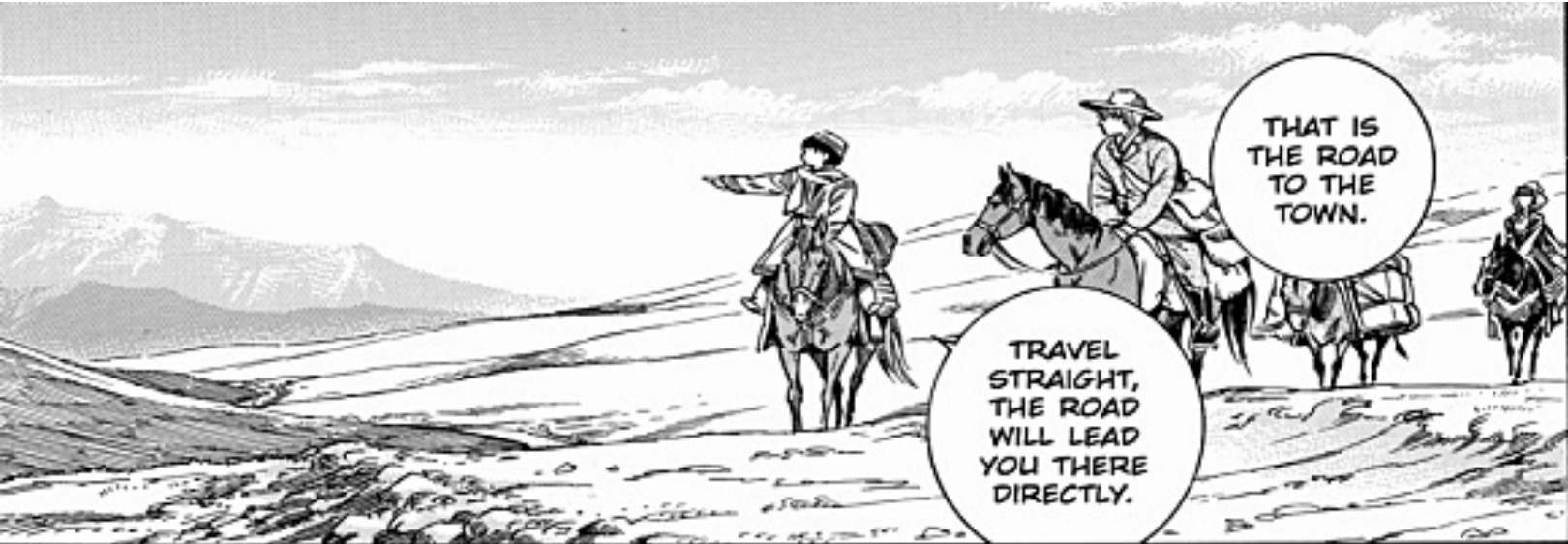














THEY
TREAD
LIGHTLY IN
THEIR
LIVES.....

...NOR
DO THEY
CHASE
THOSE
WHO
LEAVE.

THEY
DO NOT
TURN
AWAY
NEW-
COMERS
...



THEY
WERE...

...ORIGI-
NALLY
PEOPLE WHO
LIVED CON-
STANTLY ON
THE MOVE.

THIS
PARTING IS
AS NATURAL
AS A CHANCE
MEETING.



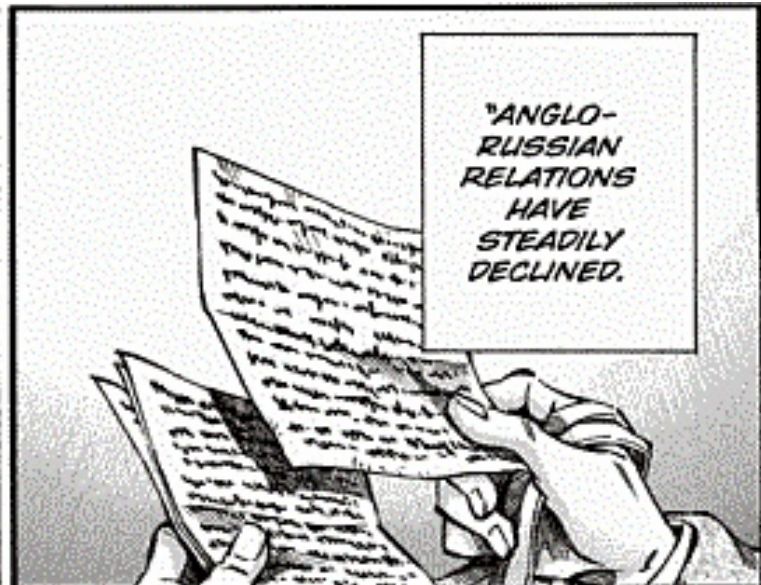
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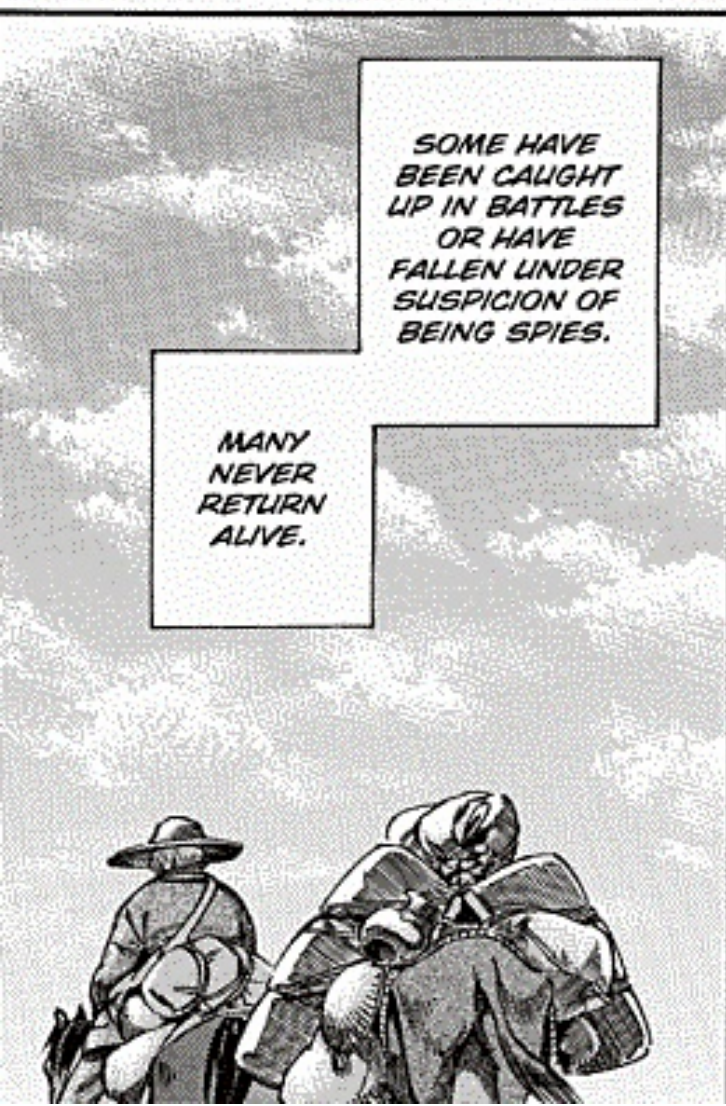


"THUS,
I FEAR
FOR YOUR
SAFETY..."

"...AND BEG
YOU TO AVOID
ANY AREAS
CLOSE TO
RUSSIAN
INFLUENCE."

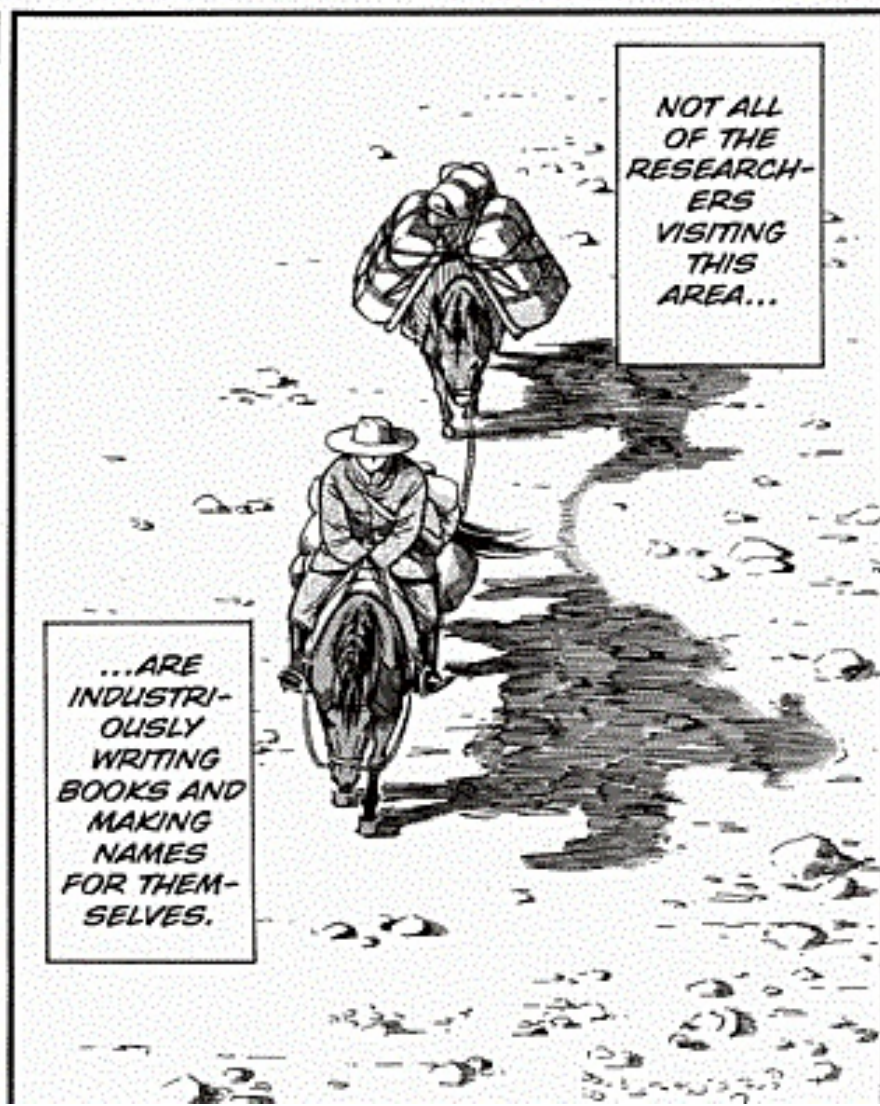


"ANGLO-
RUSSIAN
RELATIONS
HAVE
STEADILY
DECLINED."



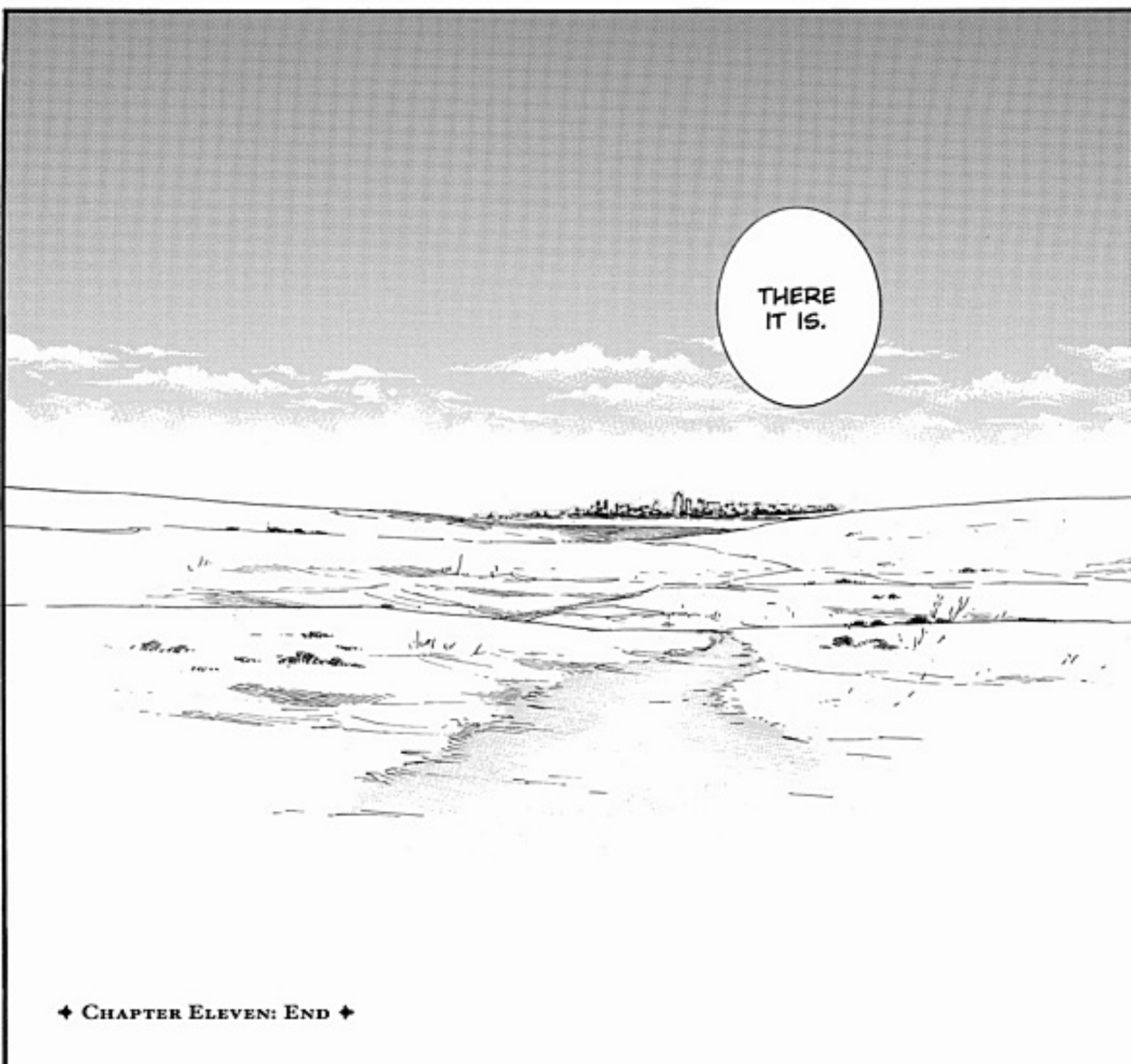
SOME HAVE
BEEN CAUGHT
UP IN BATTLES
OR HAVE
FALLEN UNDER
SUSPICION OF
BEING SPIES.

MANY
NEVER
RETURN
ALIVE.



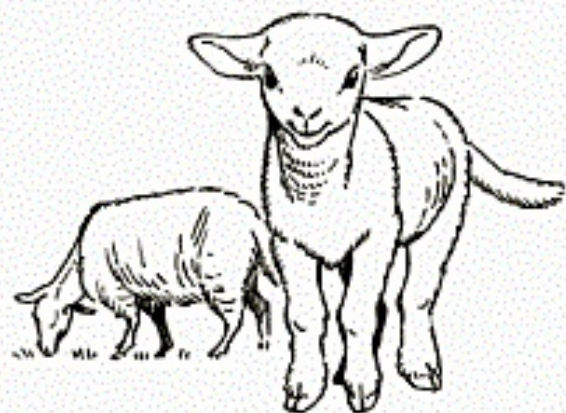
NOT ALL
OF THE
RESEARCH-
ERS
VISITING
THIS
AREA...

...ARE
INDUSTRI-
OUSLY
WRITING
BOOKS AND
MAKING
NAMES
FOR THEM-
SELVES.



THERE
IT IS.

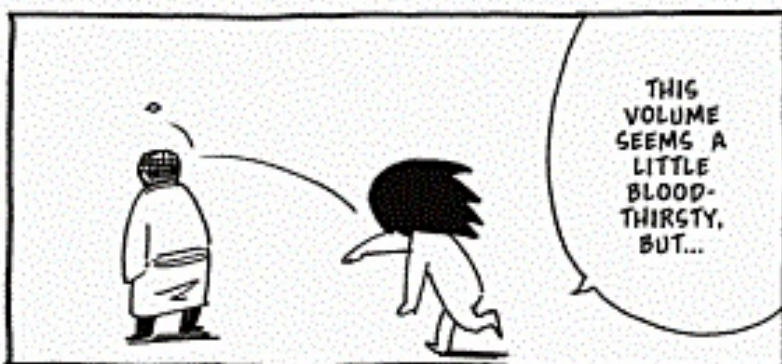
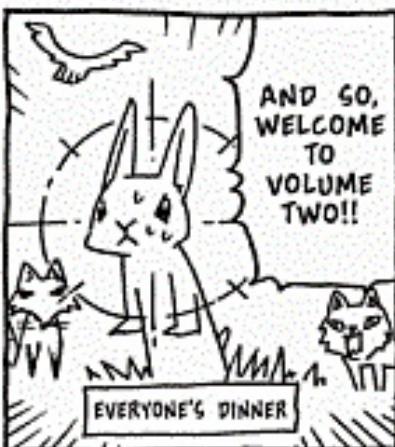
AFTERWORD

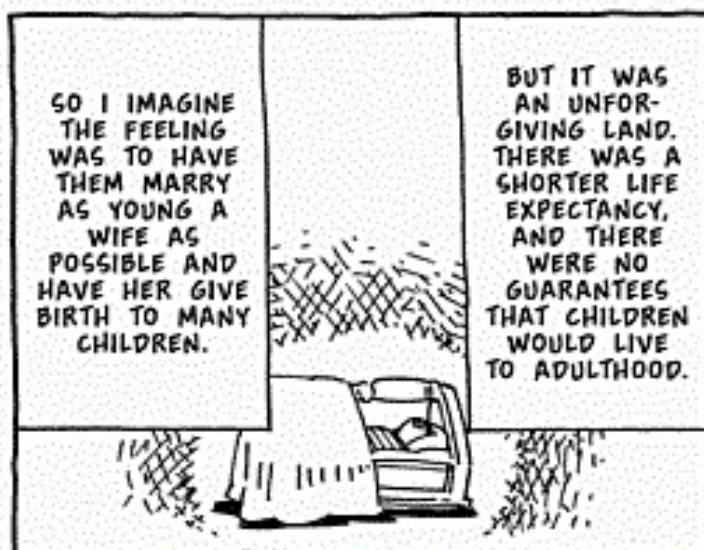
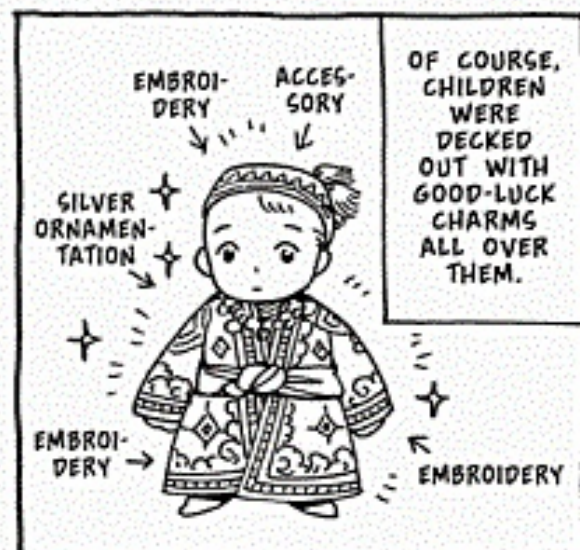
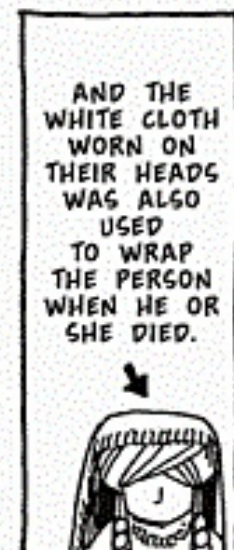
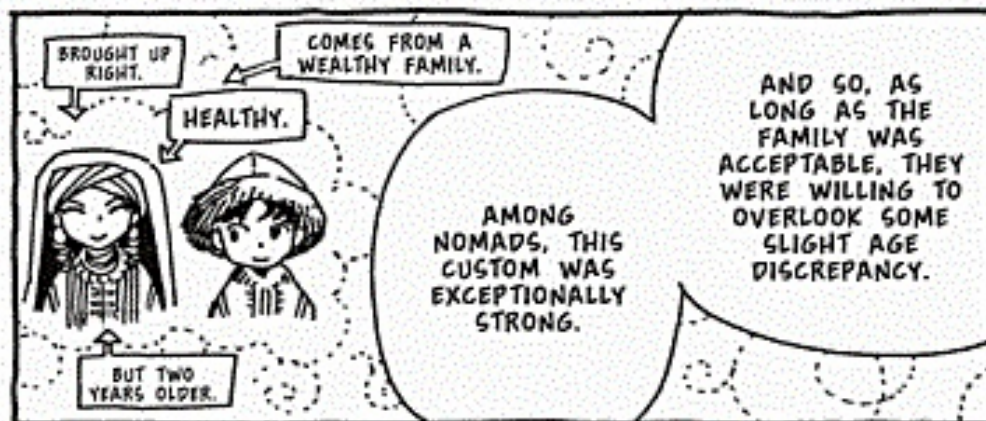
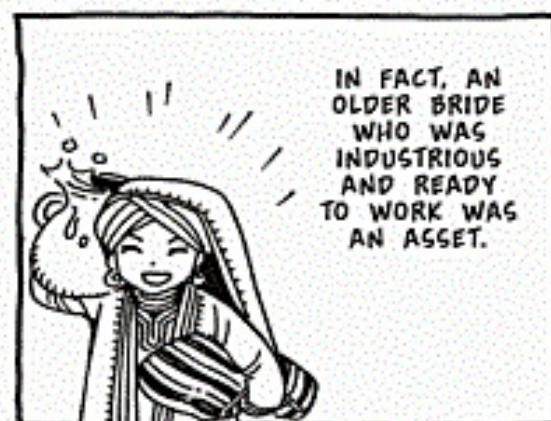
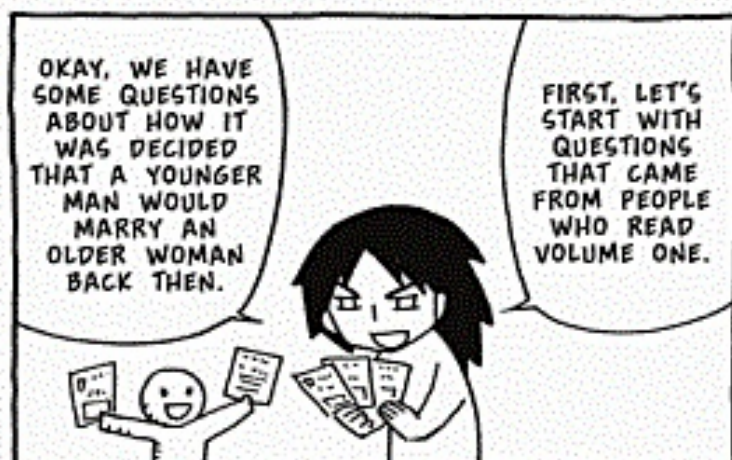
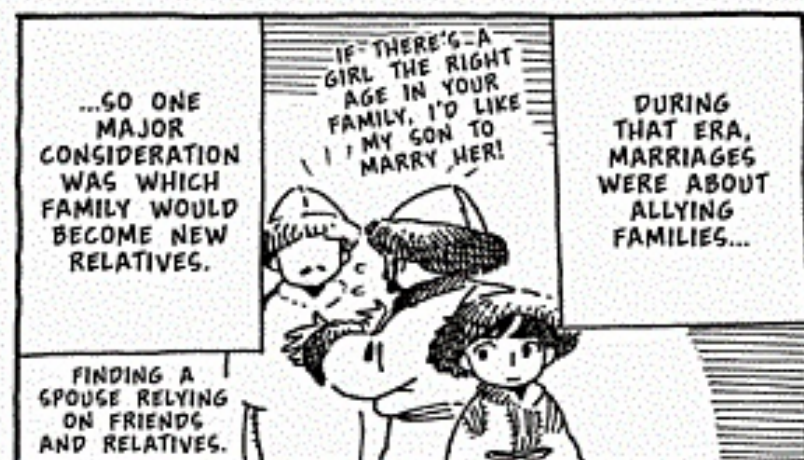
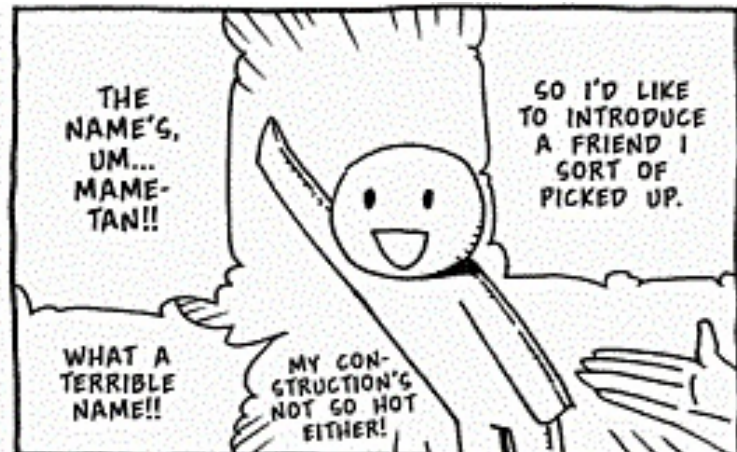


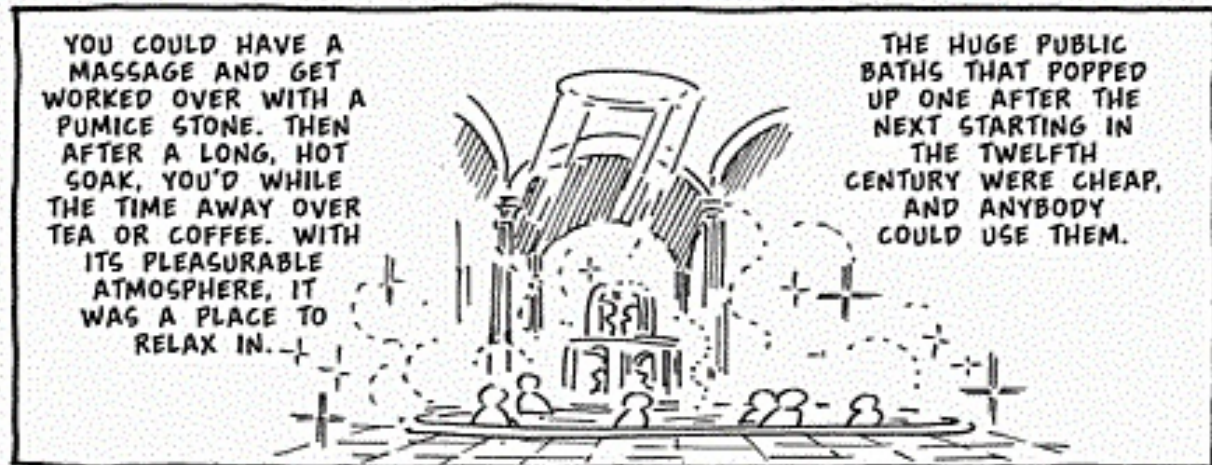
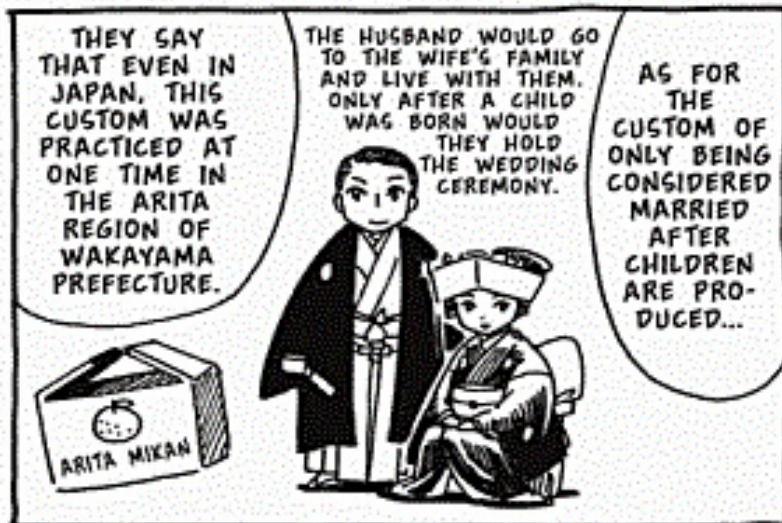
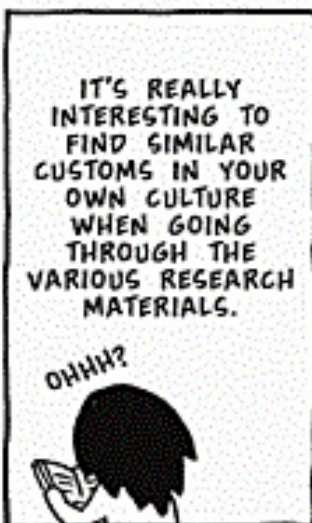


AFTERWORD TAN-TA-DAAH MANGA

"THE MOUNTAIN WHERE I ONCE CHASED RABBITS"







THE WORD "OTOYOME," WHICH IS USED IN THE JAPANESE TITLE, IS A WORD IN ANCIENT JAPANESE, MEANING "YOUNG BRIDE" OR "BEAUTIFUL BRIDE."

ANOTHER SOURCE SAYS "CUTE BRIDE."

AND I KNOW IT'S LATE TO BE SAYING THIS, BUT...

AND THE MOSAIC TILES THEY'D USE TO ADORN THEIR WASHROOMS WERE VERY BEAUTIFUL.

WATER IS PRECIOUS!

WELL, I HEAR THAT THERE WOULD BE A SMALL WASHROOM WHERE ONE COULD DO A QUICK WASH OR RINSE OFF IN A PERSON'S HOUSE.

AND, WELL, THAT'S WHAT IT WAS LIKE.

THAT'S ABOUT IT.

IT WOULD PROBABLY BE LIKE BEING PARADED AROUND NAKED.

THAT'S WHY IT WAS PUNISHMENT TO CUT OFF THE HORSES' MANES AND TAILS.

HE'D SPEND TIME AND MONEY ON HIS HORSE.

IT ISN'T AN EXAGGERATION TO SAY THAT A MAN'S HORSE WAS SECOND ONLY TO HIS LIFE. IT WAS A SYMBOL OF HIS OWN SELF-ESTEEM.

IT'S POSSIBLE THAT YOUR QUESTION MAY BE ANSWERED IN A FUTURE AFTERWORD.

...GO AHEAD AND SEND IN YOUR QUESTIONS.

SO IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW...



HEY!

THEY MUST BE FROM THE GENERATION WHEN THE SILK ROAD WAS POPULAR.

I WAS SURPRISED AT THE UNUSUAL NUMBER OF READERS OF ADVANCED YEARS.

OH!!!

I'VE READ EACH AND EVERY ONE.

I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO SENT IN A CARD.

THE CARDS ARE SIMPLY FOR HEARING YOUR OPINIONS, SO IF YOU WANT TO WRITE YOUR THOUGHTS ON A SEPARATE NOTE AND SEND THAT IN INSTEAD, THAT'S ABSOLUTELY NO PROBLEM.

I JUST THOUGHT IT'D BE A NICE ADDITION.

SO I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT.

OH, COME TO THINK OF IT, I'VE HEARD PEOPLE SAY THAT SINCE THERE'S A DRAWING ON THE READER RESPONSE CARD (INCLUDED IN THE JAPANESE EDITIONS), SOME READERS DON'T WANT TO PART WITH IT IN ORDER TO MAIL IT IN.

...ON BRIGHT,
SUNNY DAYS,
AS I SIT HERE
DRAWING HORSES'
LEGS OR
EMBROIDERY...
DETAILS,
DETAILS...

BY THE
WAY, I
SOMETIMES
THINK...

SO DON'T
TAKE THIS
TOO
SERIOUSLY!
JUST HAVE
FUN!

...AND
INSTEAD
DRAW A FUN,
INTERESTING
STORY!

BUT I'D
RATHER NOT
GET TOO
UPTIGHT
ABOUT THIS
MANGA...

PROBABLY.

YOU'RE
AN IDIOT,
RIGHT?

YES,
I FEEL
SO
ALIVE!!

SCRITCH!
SCRITCH!

SCRITCH!
SCRITCH!
SCRITCH!
SCRITCH!

DETAILS,
DETAILS
.....

...AND,
I THINK,
VARIOUS
OTHER
NEW
THINGS
TOO!

A NEW
PLACE...
A NEW
BRIDE...

...AND
FOLLOW WHAT
HAPPENS TO
MR. SMITH.

AS FOR
HOW THE STORY
IS GOING TO
PLAY OUT, I'D
LIKE TO GO FOR
A CHANGE IN
SCENERY...

GOOD-
BYE!
FARE-
WELL!

SEE
YOU!

WILL I
HAVE A
PART IN
THE NEXT
VOLUME
TOO?

SEE
YOU!

SO LET'S
MEET
AGAIN
IN THE
NEXT
VOLUME!

THE END.

A BRIDE'S STORY ②



KAORU MORI

TRANSLATION: WILLIAM FLANAGAN

LETTERING: ABIGAIL BLACKMAN

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A BRIDE'S STORY Volume 2

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First published in Japan in 2010 by

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First Yen Press eBook Edition: September 2018

Originally published as a hardcover in October 2011
by Yen Press.

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ISBN: 978-1-9753-5636-1



